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'ROAD CALMING MEASURES ARE ESSENTIAL'

Residents' plea for safe crossing point at school

RESIDENTS in Aberthin are asking the Vale Council to make the walking route from the village to the new Cowbridge Comprehensive School safer.

While they are delighted that their children will no longer have to go to the old lower school site, they say that finding a safe crossing place in the village, especially during the morning rush hour, can only get more dangerous as more children head off to school.

Tim Jenkins, who has lived in the village for 16 years, and who has an 11-year-old and 13-year-old who will be walking the relatively short distance to the new school, explained: "Ironically, people used to drive their children to the lower school site, so these safety considerations were not so relevant.

"Now, two things have changed. First, there seem to be far more children from Aberthin going to the school, and secondly, no one wants to drive just 400 yards."

The new school is clearly going to reduce traffic in general, and traffic through Cowbridge town centre in particular. The residents feel that the downside is that it will be more dangerous for their children.

Gareth Bickerton, another parent, said that the problem was that the main road winds through the village, and finding a place to cross with good visibility was almost impossible.

Almost all the children going to the comprehensive have to cross the road at some point.

He added: "Drivers who don't know the road, frequently approach too fast, ignoring the speed limit. There are several walls in the village that have been damaged when vehicles left the road."

The parents have never made an issue of the safety situation when it comes to going to primary school. The little ones head off in the opposite direction towards Llansannor School – and a parent will always see them across the road safely to the bus shelter, where there is a safe place to stand.

Kate Watts, whose 11-year-old son will start in September, said: "It is a whole new ball game when you come to 11-year-olds and older. They will want to make their own way there and back."

The parents have been in touch with the Vale Council, and they do have some sympathy for the council's highways officers.

Tim Jenkins said: "Pedestrian crossings are supposed, apparently, to go from pavement to pavement, and there is no such point at the moment in the village.

"Also, if one was built, it is difficult to find a spot with good visibility on both sides of the road. One side might give excellent views in both directions, but the other is hopeless."

At the moment, groups of three or four will let the quickest cross the road first, and work as a team to see if the road is clear both ways. The parents feel that, when it comes to the younger pupils, it is only a matter of time before someone makes a mistake, or perhaps a speeding car might stray from the road.

Kate Watts said: "We can all see that it is a difficult problem for the council, but something has to be done. At the very least, the council needs to bring in some road calming measures to really slow traffic down as it passes through the village.

Paul Gay, the Vale Council's operational manager – engineering design and procurement, said: "It is acknowledged that the opportunities to cross the road at Aberthin are limited.

"However, due to the proximity of private property to the highway and the physical characteristics of the road alignment through the village, there are no highway engineering solutions available to adequately address this problem.

"Following this query, however, the road safety section will be speaking to Cowbridge Comprehensive School early next term in respect of their pupils' requirements for additional road safety training."

PHILIP IRWIN

(*See picture on page 3*)

LEFT: One woman demonstrating an elegant control of one of the entries in the Vale Show livestock class.

PHOTOGRAPH by GLYN EVANS

2010 proves a record breaking event!

Huge crowds flock to Fonmon for Vale Agricultural Show

HUGE crowds attended the Vale of Glamorgan Agricultural Show at Fonmon Castle grounds yesterday, August 11.

By midday, organisers said "it was heaving" with people still flocking to the Vale's premier outdoor event.

The organisers of the show could have been forgiven for fearing the worst after torrential downpours fell on Monday and Tuesday.

In 2007 and 2008 the show suffered poor weather, but last year was fine and this year continued the trend.

As dawn broke over the Vale yesterday, there were blue skies and bright sunshine. Although the main thoroughfare was churned up by some of the larger vehicles, such as tractors, the grassy areas were clear and accessible.

The show's general secretary, Nicola Gibson, told The GEM: "Volunteers began arriving at the grounds at 5.30am in the morning. As first, it was a little tricky – and a bit sticky – because of the state of the ground.

"We had put down bark, but as the day progressed it got dryer and dryer.

"As people arrived, I have to say a special thanks to the Cowbridge and Llantwit Major ATC who were on the gates and helping in the thankless task of stewarding – they did a wonderful job."

'Fabulous Fonmon' was the phrase on everybody's lips as the day got off to a flying start at 8.30am with the ridden hunters, mountain and moorland working hunter ponies, coloured horses and side saddle.

The record-breaking show – it sold more than 200 trade stands weeks in advance – also had large entries in the horse, cattle and sheep classes, and fruit, flower and vegetable sections.

There were numerous other attractions, including an appearance by Cardiff Blues, a shopping mall, the Cooke & Arkwright Food Hall, a police dog display and a motorcycle stunt team.

The highlight of the day was the parade of the prize-winning animals and their owners in the main ring at 3pm.

Nicola added: "Visitors and judges have arrived, not only from the Vale, but as far away as other parts of Wales, and England, enjoying a great day."

For pictures of the Vale Show, please turn to page 18. Next week, keep an eye out for even more highlights from the day in your GEM!

Journey's end is near for the charity cyclists

A GROUP of intrepid Cowbridge cyclists is nearing the end of a marathon cycle ride, which has already raised more than £20,000 for the Velindre Hospital 'Stepping Stones' appeal.

Starting at John O'Groats 11 days ago, they had 740 gruelling miles to cover, including a diversion by ferry to Ireland, before arriving back in Cowbridge next Sunday (August 15) at the Bear Hotel.

Leading the way is Julian Hitchcock and Geoff Graham, with a number of family members. Altogether, 14 people from the Vale are in the cycling party.

Just before the ride started, fundraising efforts were going strong and the £20,000 mark was very close.

Since then, donations have continued to arrive at the group's website on *www.justgiving.co.uk/Julian-Hitchcock-Geoff-Graham*

The team finished their ride through Scotland last Friday evening (August 6) and then took the ferry from Troon to Northern Ireland on Saturday morning.

By Sunday evening, they had reached Dublin, and then it was back across the Irish Sea for the Welsh leg of the ride.

The party is expected back at The Bear in Cowbridge on Sunday.

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THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (*in certain circumstances*), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

'Tesco could be good for Rhoose'

IN response to the proposed Tesco in Rhoose on the Mayflower site, I for one am in full support.

I have lived in Rhoose most of my life and for too long it has been neglected. The main high street is run down and, quite frankly, the local shops could do with the competition to improve the services they provide.

I am mother of two young children and do not and could not buy my groceries locally. I have to pack my children into the car and drive into Barry.

If I had a local branch of Tesco in the village, I could walk and get the necessities I need. When major new housing developments were planned for Rhoose, a lot was promised but none of the local amenities ever materialised and it is such a shame that Rhoose has been allowed to decline the way it has.

I know a lot of the older generation will be against this new store but believe me, my family will very much appreciate it.

There are a lot of new young families in Rhoose these days and I am sure they would feel the same way.

I do agree that the traffic will need to be looked at and monitored and we could do with another pelican crossing, as it can be quite difficult to cross in the mornings for the school run.

However, I honestly feel that a Tesco store could start the rejuvenation of Rhoose that it so desperately needs.

Mrs N Spear, Rhoose

Greyhounds' thanks

THANKS to the people and visitors to Cowbridge, who generously supported Greyhound Welfare at our street collection and *Meet The Greyhounds* event in Cowbridge in July.

The street collection raised a total of £190.30, thanks to the generosity of local supporters, which will be helpful in meeting vet's fees and kennelling costs before rescued dogs are found homes.

On the first Sunday of every month, we walk with our greyhounds at Cosmeston Lakes. All are welcome to come along, and the next one is Sunday, September 5 at 2pm.

If you wish to enquire about sharing life with a greyhound, telephone Paula on 01633 892846. For general information, please phone 01446 750663.

John Richfield, volunteer helper

'Local children are being let down'

I CANNOT believe that the Theatre Royal, Barry, is to be used for social housing, what is going on? Who would allow this to happen?

And to add insult to injury, it is being funded by the WAG to the tune of £4.2 million!

Have they not thought about the saturation of people who, by the way, have no leisure facilities here – apart from the pub?

I really feel sorry for the children and young adults who live here – they are being let down badly by the very people who pretend to care about Barry.

(Name and address supplied)

Scrapping of cheques

WHY SHOULD BANKS BE JUDGE AND JURY?

I AM not sure if people are aware that the banks are considering the complete withdrawal of cheques in the next few years.

In my view, this could cause serious problems for small businesses and sole traders like plumbers who still make considerable use of cheques.

It is likely to cause very serious inconvenience to private citizens, when they give a present of money to their children, and clubs who use cheques extensively for paying subscriptions.

Even if a free electronic alternative is provided, this would not be as convenient as people would have to queue up to use it rather than leaving payment with the treasurer or, indeed, posting it. For older people who do not want to get involved with computers and so forth, it could cause even greater problems.

A committee is considering the matter and it has been agreed that cheques will not be withdrawn until 'an acceptable alternative' is available.

Unfortunately, the committee is run by the banks, whose idea of an acceptable alternative might be very different from that of users.

What is, perhaps, of even more concern is that the Government has taken a very hands-off approach – in effect, leaving the banks as judge and jury in their own cause.

It seems to me that the general public should be made aware of the position and, if they agree with my view, take steps to ensure that their interests are properly protected.

Gavin Davies

'WE NEED A CINEMA, NOT MORE HOUSES IN TOWN'

I'VE recently heard the sad news that the Theatre Royal building will be demolished to make way for a residential home – this is appalling and disgusting.

Barry needs places to have fun in. We have no cinema, no bowling alley, no ice rink; in short, we have nothing at all to keep us entertained!

The cinema was the last good thing we had in Barry.

When was the last time you heard people say 'Oh great, new houses are going to be built, we need more of them?" The answer is never. The response you hear is "Why? Half the flats on the front are empty."

There is no need for a residential home and in any case, the site the cinema building is situated on is barely suitable.

As you drive into West End, Barry, you pass rows and rows of half empty flats and empty land. It looks ugly and lifeless.

Couldn't these residential homes be built on the land that has been empty for years that runs all the way to the island?

This land isn't too far away from local businesses so elderly residents would find it just as easy to manage their daily life as they would from the theatre site.

If it is to be that this 100-year-old building is to be demolished, could they not build us another cinema, or anything that will give us more to do than go to a pub?

As it stands, the only thing Barry has is pubs and houses.

C Manders
(Barry resident and former Barry cinema employee)

Free milk, or magistrates?

ALUN CAIRNS MP wrote in The GEM on July 29:

"*In the House of Commons, I highlighted the separate entrances for defendants and witnesses at Barry.*

"We need to highlight the excellent efficiencies the magistrates and staff show, and the targets they regularly exceed."

He misses the point: No-one is criticising the 68 magistrates, their staff, or the court building.

The Blair/Brown Government has left the economy in a mess and the (Tory-Lib Dem) Coalition has been given a mandate to sort it out.

In a hard choice between keeping free milk for under-5s or keeping a magistrates court in Barry - as a grandfather I opt for keeping the free milk.

Of course, I recognise that Thatcherites had-wanted to do away with kiddies' milk and to keep the court running at all costs.

Roger Everest, Pontyclun

We welcome your views. Email them to ggem@internet-today.co.uk, or by post to the The GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL

Stamps 'thank you'

I AM writing to thank The GEM for the safe arrival of the Royal Mint stamps 'Britain Alone'.

It was indeed a lovely surprise.

H Morgan, Bridgend

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL AUGUST 19)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
12 Thur	08.44	10.3	21.03	10.6
13 Fri	09.29	10.4	21.42	10.6
14 Sat	10.11	10.1	22.27	10.1
15 Sun	10.53	9.6	23.11	9.4
16 Mon	11.34	8.9	23.56	8.7
17 Tues			12.25	8.3
18 Wed	00.49	8.0	13.34	7.7
19 Thur	02.16	7.7	15.06	7.6

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide tablespecific to their location.

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National Drugs Helpline **0800 776600**
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RAF Association Welfare Officer 01495 249522/01446 740522
SAMARITANS (emotional support) **01656 662333**
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(Mental Health Matters) **01656 767045**
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Inroads Drugs Project 01446 404040.
Vale Victim & Witness Support - 01446 730704.

MP /AM's SURGERIES

To make a surgery appointment with Alun Cairns MP, contact the constituency office 01446 733516. To make a surgery appointment with Jane Hutt AM, contact the constituency office (01446) 740981.

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At 119 Broad Street, Barry) (Telephone 0844 477 2020 for other Vale office opening times).

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SCHOOL YEAR ENDS WITH 'WORLD CUP'

Y BONT FAEN PUPILS GET GARDENING ACCOLADE

JUST before school broke up, pupils and staff at Y Bont Faen Primary School discovered that they had won another competition – the Vale in Bloom for schools.

Mrs Adams, the assistant headteacher, runs a gardening club and, over four years, the numbers of children (and parents) have increased and the club now looks after a sensory garden and a vegetable patch.

Jayne Morris, on behalf of the school governors, told The GEM: "Our headteacher Meic Griffiths has had an amazing first year, gaining awards for Investors in Families, ECO schools, the skills agency Kite mark and the Welsh Language Board award.

"We have worked together as Y Bont Faen Family under his leadership to attain all of these awards together."

She continued: "When the judges visited the school, they were so impressed with the children and their enthusiasm.

"They were shown the chickens that hatched in school and are now kept in the vegetable patch, and their new generation green wind turbine and solar panel experiments.

"They not only awarded them first place in the Vale in Bloom schools section – but also first place in Villages in Bloom for the second year running!

"Well done gardening club and a huge thank you to Mrs Adams and Mrs Miller for putting in all the extra time after school to get it looking so fabulous!"

She continued: "After the garden was judged, the children sold off their produce to eager parents and teachers to fund next year's programme, after keeping some of the strawberries to make themselves some well-deserved smoothies!

"In the Village category, Pendoylan came second and Eagleswell came third – well done to you, too!

"The school year finished with the whole school watching a panto, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, produced entirely by year-4 and 5 with the help of learning assistant Mrs Pitcock and the cast's parents!

"Next the boys in year-4 had organised a morning of 'World Cup Madness' with six teams of boys and girls from years 3,4,5 and 6, representing Spain, England, Brazil, Argentina, Germany and the Netherlands.

"Year-12 work experience pupils from Cowbridge Comprehensive, who had been helping us all week, were the referees – there was no messing with Gabby Calcaterra – no arguing with this ref!

"Eventually, the nail-biting final was won by the Netherlands, who overcame Argentina in the final seconds!

"Year-4 boys Edward Lewis and Hari Hartmann, the event organisers, handed out the winning medals, match attack cards and sweets to the Dutch team!"

She concluded: "It has been a happy year building the new Bont Faen family and we wish all our family – as well as the whole community – a happy holiday and hope that the weather is kind to us all!"

ABOVE: A judge is shown around the pupils' garden.

Argentina arguing with the ref again!

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Aberthin parents and pupils are searching for a safe crossing point

ABOVE: A large turn-out of concerned parents and children who are looking for a safe way to cross the raod on school mornings as it weaves through Aberthin.
(SEE PAGE 1 STORY FOR FULL DETAILS).

Local mother and toddlers group 'might have to close'

SHORTAGE OF HELPERS COULD MEAN THE END

RIGHT: Some of the toddlers whose group may not be able to reopen.

A LOCAL mother and toddler group fears that it may not be able to reopen after the summer break, as it may be short of helpers.

The Ystradowen mother and toddler group runs every Thursday from 10.30am to 12pm, and has done so consistently for the last nine years.

It is run by Helen Phillips, who told The GEM: "Together with Laura Pullin and Tracey Cookson, I have been running it for the last six years and we have had help from other mums too.

"The group is very friendly and the children have great fun. We have an arts and craft table with play dough, colouring etc, tricycles, slide, see-saws, small trampoline, garages, train tracks, pushchairs, highchair and cots for toy babies, books and lots of soft toys for very small babies.

"We charge £2, which includes a tea or coffee for the mums, plus a fruit snack and drink for the children at a set time."

She continued: "It would be a shame for the village if it were to close, as well as for other parents from outside of the village.

"It is a great place to meet new parents and make friends."

Helen said: "I hope that some mothers might get in touch so that we can keep the group going. I would be happy to help in those first few weeks to help a new group get started."

Helen can be contacted on 07999 874922.

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ARTIST MUMS SHOW HOW IT'S DONE!

Pupils' 'leaving present' is a work of recycled art

Pupils from St Brides Major CiW Primary created a fantastic eco-sculpture with the help of local artists Natalie Vernon and Kathryn Lincoln.

AT the end of the summer term, pupils from St Brides Major Church in Wales Primary were busy creating a giant 'eco sculpture' in the school grounds.

Children from year-6 worked with local artists Natalie Vernon and Kathryn Lincoln, who both have children in the school, to create an unusual piece of artwork out of materials usually destined for the bin.

Used plastic bottles and cups were collected from the Vale Council's waste management and cleansing team, and also from local pubs, The Pelican and the Three Golden Cups.

The pupils started the day by decorating individual 'slides' (made out of old plastic lids) with glass paints, making their mark by writing their names on them.

These were then woven into the sculpture, together with the cups and bottles.

Kathryn said: "This is our children's last year in primary school and we wanted to give something back to the school that has nurtured them for seven years. We wanted to make sure the children had a fun day which celebrated the beautiful coastline nearby and the school's environmental credentials."

St Brides Major Church in Wales Primary school is renowned for its fantastic school grounds and has the Platinum Green Flag award, the highest status within the Eco-Schools international scheme.

Coun Geoff Cox, cabinet member for visible and building services, was "delighted to see the children's hard work".

He said: "This super project shows what can be done with some creativity. Well done to all involved."

Environmental bodies interested in undertaking similar projects can contact the artists, Natalie and Kathryn, by emailing info@nvart.co.uk.

BRIDGE CLUB results

VALE of Glamorgan Bridge Club (club night results for August 2).

1st, Marjorie Moore and Bill Turner 61.11 per cent; 2nd, Miriam and Simon Gottschalk 59.09; 3rd, Mike Best and David Birt 57.58; 4th, Margaret Bancroft and Barbara Easterbrook 57.07; 5th, Christine and John Evans 56.31; 6th, Elaine and Allan Robins 55.30.

Cowbridge & District Bridge Club (club night) August 3: 1st, Pat and Brian Swain 65.48 per cent; 2nd, Glenda Roberts and Amy Owen 61.90; 3rd, Ann Miller and Judy Springett 60.32; 4th, Hugh Williams and Gordon Berrey 59.52; 5th, Pauline Lane and Anne Thomas 57.14; 5th, Mary Wallis and Myrtle Hansard 57.14.

A special party bridge event is being held at 2pm on Wednesday, August 18, in Llanblethian Church Hall, to raise funds for storage cupboards in the newly-renovated premises.

Tickets are still available, including refreshments, at £5 from the committee.

BS

RACE FOR LIFE

Left to right: Jean Clark, actress Celia Imrie, Tony Clark and Jane Thorpe, after the five kilometre Race for Life walk around the deck of the* Queen Mary 2*, in aid of Cancer Research.

JEAN AND JANE'S WALK ON WATER!

BREAST cancer survivor, Jean Clark of Ewenny, fully expected to join hundreds of others walking the Cancer Research 'Race for Life' at Cardiff Castle.

That was until she discovered that her husband, Tony, had booked a cruise on the ocean liner *Queen Mary 2*, to New York, which clashed with the race.

"No problem" said Jean, "I'll do the walk on board!"

News of her proposed walk reached the ears of the *Queen Mary 2* director of entertainment, who invited Jean and her friend and fellow passenger, Jane Thorpe, of St Brides Major, to appear on the on-board television programme.

An official start was organised from lifeboat station 14, on deck 7, and Jean and Jane were joined by many other passengers who had seen the programme, all keen to walk 10 times round the deck (five kilometres) in aid of the charity.

Also on board the Cunard flagship was actress Celia Imrie, well known for her roles in *Dinner Ladies, Acorn Antiques* and as Miss November in *Calendar Girls* (the one who needed bigger buns).

Celia willingly rose to the challenge of walking with the girls, and happily posed for photographs after the walk.

Birthday get-together

ON Sunday, August 15, the 2nd Llantwit Major Boys' Brigade Company will be celebrating 25 years.

This will be marked with morning service at Tabernacle Presbyterian Church, Methodist Lane, Llantwit Major at 11am.

The service will be led by the NCOs of the Company, and will be followed by a barbecue.

All 'Old Boys' of the Company will be welcome to come along and join us, quite a number have already made contact.

Others who wish to attend should contact the retiring Captain, Andy Wellsbury, on 01446 796374 to be added to the catering list.

Members step back in time at woollen mill

ON August 4, Llanharry WI members were joined by friends and members from Bont Faen and Ystradowen WIs for their summer trip.

A full coach headed west to Llandeilo, Llandovery and on to Llanwrtyd Wells to the Cambrian woollen mill.

A tour of the production floor was available, where weaving has taken place since 1918.

The processes that turn a raw fleece into finished cloth were explained, and the working of a loom demonstrated.

A brief stop at Builth Wells was made before journeying to Llangoed Hall, a Welsh country house hotel, near Brecon, for afternoon tea. A very warm welcome was extended and a guided tour of the reception rooms and bedrooms was very much enjoyed, followed by a delicious tea.

Before departing, the weather allowed a stroll around the well tended gardens which overlook the Wye Valley and the Black Mountains.

On August 8, four members enjoyed a weekend in the comfort of Denman College, Oxford. Their chosen talks were fashion and design and cookery.

The next meeting is on September 7 at the church hall at 7.30pm. **JR**

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE ORDER, SECTION 16A
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
LE JARDIN FLAMBEE EVENT
FRIDAY 27th AUGUST 2010
Order Under Section 16A Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that The Vale of Glamorgan Council has made an Order under Section 16A, Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as follows:

WHEREAS the Vale of Glamorgan Council as Highway Authority is satisfied that traffic on the streets or parts thereof as listed in column 2 of the Schedule should on 27th August 2010 be restricted to enable the holding of a relevant event, the Council, pursuant to the powers conferred by Section 16A Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, HEREBY ORDERS AND DIRECTS that the following regulations shall be observed:

The streets or parts thereof as specified in the Schedule shall be closed to all vehicular traffic including pedal cycles, with the exception of those vehicles that are permitted to participate in the event and emergency services (including coastguard vehicles) between the hours specified in column 3 of the Schedule.

The penalty for infringement of this regulation is a fine not exceeding £1,000.

Schedule 1

Friday 27 August 2010	The area to be closed is Holton Road, Barry from its junction with Ty-Newydd Road to a point 50m east of its junction with Llantwit Street.	18.00 – 23.00

Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times.

Dated this 12th day of August 2010
M. Punter,
Head of Visible Services
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

Wick RFC has a welcome for players past and present!

Wick RFC has produced this commemorative photo (left) of past and present members. The club would like to thank Atlantic College for allowing the use of St Donat's castle grounds and The Lamb & Flag for hosting the function.

STICKING TO SPEED LIMITS AND COMMONSENSE ON A48

OVER the past few weeks, there have been a number of responses to J (John?) Thomas' letter (GEM, July 22) and the suggestion that the road speeds through St Nicholas and Bonvilston should, in the interests of safety and fuel economy, be increased by some 60 per cent.

Thankfully, the responses have come from people with commonsense and intelligence.

Some of the increase in the volume of traffic during peak hours comes from as far afield as west of Bridgend, with commuters using Ewenny and Corntown as 'rat runs' to the A48, thus avoiding the 'magic roundabout' at Waterton Cross and the M4.

The congestion caused by the over-development of Culverhouse Cross is something (unfortunately) that planners have left us to cope with and will not go away.

There is also much concern regarding safety at Sycamore Cross, where accidents happen all too regularly and this is under constant review.

To allay residents' concerns the police, community council and highway agencies would not support any increase to the existing speed limits. In fact, there are good grounds for a uniform reduction when approaching the two villages.

Furthermore, the community council would welcome the introduction of speed cameras to curtail the manic activities of some drivers during off-peak hours.

If 'JT' is capable of taking advice, it would be to drive within the law, respect other drivers and pedestrians, keep your foot 'lightly' on the accelerator and (hopefully) arrive safely at your destination – an early meeting with St Peter is not preferable.

The solidarity that exists between more clear-minded individuals should be a clear indication to those who always want to get ahead of the pack.

Coun Roy Burston,
(Chairman, St Nicholas and Bonvilston
Community council)

OBITUARY

Jeff Wadham, Cowbridge

I FEEL very humbled to have been requested by several of his close friends to write a tribute to one of life and Cowbridge town's great characters.

Jeff – whose funeral was attended by literally hundreds of people on Thursday, August 5 at The Holy Cross Church – spent his life helping others.

He would always lighten up your day with his humour and was a good friend to many.

His popularity was evidenced by the fact that the church was packed out by people of all ages and across the whole spectrum of society.

I have personally enjoyed many an hour in the company of this lovely man and his wonderful wife Sue.

He was a true family man who lived life to the full.

His humour remained with him until the end and he fought his illness with dignity and his usual wry remark and smile.

An old established Cowbridge family – with local shops and businesses – well-wishers, friends and, most of all his loving family, said goodbye to this exceptional man who will be sorely missed. Cowbridge will indeed be a lesser place without him.

I am sure there are many far more qualified than I to write this tribute; however, the importance of acknowledging his life within the community was pressed home to me by many who knew him well.

For this reason, the written word may not be enough to express our true feelings towards Jeff, but maybe is some small measure of comfort to his friends and family. A fond farewell.

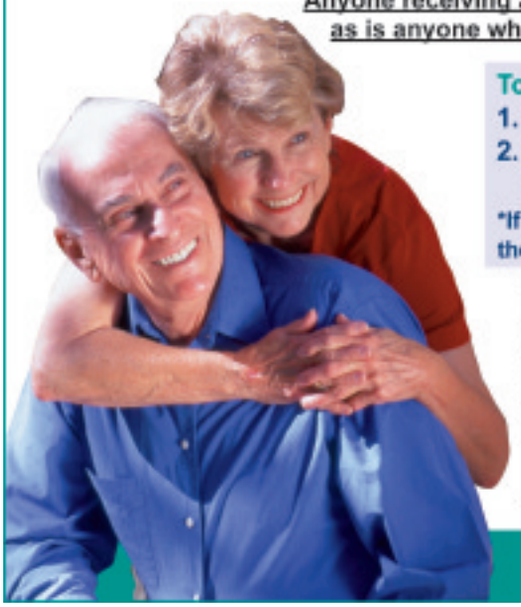
Tribute by
Coun Valerie Ellis

COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION FOR LOCAL PENSIONERS

If you are aged 65 or older and do NOT currently receive any council tax benefits, you could be entitled to a one off payment towards your council tax if you apply before the end of August.

Bridgend County Borough Council has been allocated money by the Welsh Assembly Government to help local pensioners with their council tax. Successful applicants will have their council tax for 2010/11 reduced and will benefit from lower instalments. The actual amount of the reduction will depend on the total number of applicants.

Anyone receiving a discount because they live alone is still eligible to apply if they meet the criteria, as is anyone who has a partner below the age of 65.



To qualify you must:

1. **Be aged 65 or over on 1 June 2010**
2. **Live in the Bridgend County Borough area**
3. **Be responsible for paying council tax; and**
4. **NOT already receiving council tax benefit***

***If you receive a discount because you live alone, you are still eligible to apply if you meet the above critera**

To apply, please call in to Bridgend County Borough Council's Customer Service Centre with proof of age. Or you can send a short letter with your full name, address and contact details and stating you would like to apply for the Pensioner Discount 2010 to: **Bridgend County Borough Council, The Taxation Section, Pensioner Discount 2010, Level 1, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend CF31 4WB**. Proof of age must be supplied, eg birth certificate, passport, driving licence but please send **COPIES ONLY**. Do not send original documents. All applications must be received by **31 August 2010**. Unfortunately late applications will not be considered.

BRIDGEND

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (01656) 643643

In loving memory of Sophia Jasmine...

BARRY COUPLE FIGHT FOR TESTING OF RARE CONDITION IN WALES

by TIM CHAPMAN

A heartbroken Barry couple – whose eight-month-old daughter died from a rare condition they were unaware of – want to turn the tragedy into something positive and are campaigning for screening in Wales to save children's lives.

David Williams (43) and his wife Nicola (24) suffered a nightmare return flight from the Canary Islands to Bristol Airport last year when their daughter Sofia Jasmine stopped breathing.

The couple have launched a website http://mcadangel09.weebly.com/ to raise awareness of the condition Sofia suffered from and it also tells the story what happened on the flight.

On the website, Nicola recalls that the emergency began half an hour before landing:

"I strapped Sofia into her belt and she snuggled into my arm. I stroked Sofia's chubby cheek – she opened her eyes and looked straight into my eyes. She snuggled into my arm and lifted her arm onto my fingers...suddenly she stopped breathing. I screamed...Suddenly my heart was beating at 100mph. My body was shaking and my eyes were filling up with tears."

Members of the crew attempted CPR, and on landing Sofia was rushed to Bristol Children's Hospital and raced into the resuscitation room where doctors worked on her for about 15 minutes. Tragically, Sophia died that afternoon.

This week, David told The GEM the couple wanted to turn the tragic event into something positive.

"It is not about being bitter, we are appealing to people to visit our webpage and to get your kids checked out. We want to warn people this is a deadly, deadly disease.

"We are supporting a charity called Climb which is raising awareness of the condition that Sophia had.

"A speaker from Climb will be doing a presentation at a golf day we are helping to organise at St Andrews Major on September 30."

The disease that Sophia had is medium chain acoyl-dehydrogenase deficiency (MCADD) a rare inherited disorder that interrupts the break-down of fat.

The couple only discovered they carry the condition themselves after Sophia died.

Mr Williams explained: "Children are screened in England, but screening is not available in Wales until 2011 – we want to see it happen now.

"If Sophia had been screened, we would have known about the condition – there are ways of treating it such as with glucose drinks."

David added: "As a family we are managing on a day to day basis – we think of Sophia all the time and go up to Barry Cemetery virtually every day."

The symptoms of MCADD usually manifest themselves at between three months and three years old, particularly after a period of fasting, infection or stress. The symptoms vary but can include drowsiness, lack of energy, diarrhoea, vomiting, or low blood sugar levels.

The GEM will provide more details of the golf day at St Andrews Major as they become available.

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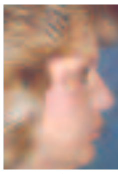
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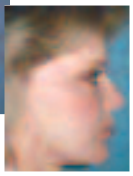
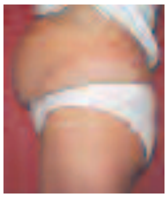
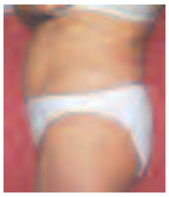

AFTER

One client lost 4cm under her jowl area
Opens Eyes,
Lifts Brows,
Enhances Cheekbones,
Lifts Corner of mouth,
Sharpens Jaw Line,
- Reduces
- Lines
- Wrinkles


BEFORE

Compared to
LYPOSUCTION.
FAT REMOVAL spot reduction
NO needles or surgery
photos are as seen on T.V.
MESOTHERAPY FAT LOSS FOR THE FACE AND BODY EYEBAGS, JOWLS, ARMS, STOMACH, BUTTOCKS, THIGHS


AFTER

SEMI PERMANENT MAKEUP.
Lasts up to 3-5 yrs – eyeliner, lipliner and eyebrows By Qualified Teacher.
TATTOO REMOVAL, all colours removed
* WRINKLE RELAXING TREATMENTS *SCARS *STRETCHMARKS
*SKIN TAGS REMOVED - *PIGMENTATION - * AGE SPOTS.
* Medical Peels by Prescribing Nurse
* THREAD VEINS ON THE FACE AND LEGS REMOVED
- *PEELS - *MICRODERMABRASIONS, , - *ELECTROLYSIS AND IPL PERMANENT HAIR REMOVAL, ALSO SKIN REJUVENATION BY IPL

SKIN TAGS REMOVED

TRAINING ALSO AVAILABLE (START A NEW BUSINESS OR AD D TO EXISTING ONE)

Betty's badge

MISS MH (Betty) Elliott, one of the founder committee members of the Dinas Powys RNLI branch, recently retired from her long-held role of souvenir secretary, and was awarded the Silver Badge in recognition of her dedication. It was presented by Mrs Diana Balch, the chairman of the Dinas Powys branch, at a lunch in the company of her fellow committee members and friends.

Christian Bullen and Clive Curtis of Act4Fun.

Vale AM meets with Act4Fun

VALE AM Jane Hutt recently met Christian Bullen, the director of Act4Fun, a local children's theatre group, who was presented with a cheque for £5,000 by Clive Curtis, partnership and development officer for the Vale Centre for Voluntary Services. The money will be used to buy sound equipment and microphones for Act4Fun, which has 80 members between the ages of six and 17.

Christian said; "We were in great need of a sound system for the club. With this funding we have been able to take our sessions to the next level, giving the students even more to feel proud of. It is very inspiring that organisations such as VCVS are here to help Act4Fun".

Jane Hutt said: "This is a fantastic organisation which shows young people how to have fun through theatre while still putting on professional performances."

"I would recommend that anyone who may be interested in this fantastic children's community theatre, which aims to provide all children, regardless of their financial background with the opportunity to perform, consults Act4Fun's website at www.Act4Fun.co.uk"

FARM & COUNTRY IS ON THE MOVE

LEADING rural and farm retailer SCATS Farm & Country is set to open its first store in Wales – at Bridgend.

Due to open in October, the Farm & Country's 20th store will be located in a prominent position on Brackla Industrial Estate, with easy access from Junction 36 of the M4.

A spokeswoman stated: "The 3.2 acre site will feature a large retail shop stocking everything for the farmer and rural dweller, including animal health and husbandry items, a Mole Valley Farmers Farm Service customer desk, pet and equine departments and a Welsh food and drink department.

"A large yard area will hold stocks of timber, fencing, gates and fuel tanks with a separate area for outdoor furniture, planters and pots.

"The store will offer a separate large animal feed store with a dedicated sales office where customers can make purchases and obtain specialist advice on all feed and yard products."

SCATS Farm & Country had made a significant investment in the site in order to transform the former bath and tiles outlet into a one-stop shop for the farming and rural community in Bridgend. The country lifestyle brand is in the process of recruiting more than 25 full and part time staff, including an experienced store manager to lead the team.

Alun Johnson, SCATS Farm & Country head of retail sales and marketing, commented: "This is a fantastic site which has allowed us to introduce the SCATS Farm & Country brand and retail offer to customers in and around Bridgend.

"SCATS Farm & Country is part of the Mole Valley Farmers Group who have been, and will continue to provide, agricultural services in south Wales, including feed and forage solutions for farmers.

"South Wales is a key agricultural trading area and we have been keen for some time to invest in Bridgend providing a retail offering for both farmers and country dwellers living and working in the town and surrounding districts."

SCATS Farm & Country has also announced that it is joining forces with agricultural supplies company Glamorgan Farm Supplies which will move to the new SCATS Farm & Country store.

Visit Ilfracombe • Explore Lundy Island • Showboat

Onboard: RESTAURANT • LOUNGES • SHOP

from CARDIFF & PENARTH

ILFRACOMBE - GLORIOUS DEVON
Watermouth Castle
SATURDAY AUGUST 14 Leave 12noon back 7.30pm
SUNDAY AUGUST 15 Leave 9.30am back 9pm
TUESDAY AUGUST 17 Leave 10.15am back 9.15pm
SUNDAY AUGUST 22 Leave 9.30am back 7.30pm
TUESDAY AUGUST 24 Leave 9.30am back 9pm
Visit the seaside at Ilfracombe - Glorious Devon £29 SC £27 On AUG 15 & 24 Sail to Ilfracombe to visit Watermouth Castle, a theme park amid spectacular scenery of Devon Coast. A fun filled family day out for only £31

EVENING SHOWBOAT
SATURDAY AUGUST 14 Leave 7.30pm back 11pm
FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 10 Leave 7pm back 11.30pm
Enjoy an evening cruise up the River Usk with live music onboard £19 Groups of 6 or more only £17

BOOK TICKETS AT LOCAL TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES AND CARDIFF BUS

Visit LUNDY ISLAND
SUNDAY AUGUST 15 Leave 9.30am back 9pm
TUESDAY AUGUST 24 Leave 9.30am back 9pm
Visit Lundy Island - explore this enchanting National Trust Island with spectacular views £39.95

L& B RAILWAY & Visit LYNMOUTH
SUNDAY AUGUST 15 Leave 9.30am back 9pm
TUESDAY AUGUST 24 Leave 9.30am back 9pm
Cruise to Ilfracombe where you will be taken to Lynmouth before enjoying a trip on the Lynton & Barnstaple Railway - a picturesque narrow gauge railway. Inclusive fare £39

MINEHEAD & STEAM TRAIN
TUESDAY AUGUST 17 Leave 10.15am back 9.15pm
Visit Minehead £25 SC £23 Or join the GWR for a 40-mile steam train trip through the Somerset Countryside and 9 charming stations. Enjoy time in Minehead – Exmoor coach tour and cruise home from Ilfracombe £37

CHILDREN: Under 16 HALF FARE Under 5 FREE

Cruise CLOVELLY
TUESDAY AUGUST 17 Leave 10.15am back 9.15pm
Sail to Clovelly - cruise past the timeless village town of Clovelly viewing stunning coastline and dramatic Hartland Point with towering cliffs £35 SC £33

RIVER AVON & HISTORIC DOCKS
THURSDAY AUGUST 19 Leave 11.30am back 5.45pm
Visit Clevedon £15 or enjoy a spectacular cruise up River Avon & sail through the Avon Gorge and round Bristol's Historic Harbour & City Docks £23 SC £21. Or Enjoy an open top Bus Tour of Bristol's historic sites £29

3 RIVERS & 5 BRIDGES
FRIDAY AUGUST 20 Leave 1pm back 8.15pm
Visit Clevedon £15. Cruise on the River Avon sailing through the spectacular Avon Gorge and on the 'calm waters' of Rivers Severn and Wye & sail under the spectacular Severn Bridges £27 SC £25. Or Enjoy an open top Bus Tour of Bristol's historic sites £29

MINEHEAD & PORLOCK BAY
SATURDAY AUGUST 21 Leave 2pm back 6.45pm
Cruise to charming West Somerset & visit Minehead £25 SC £23 Or enjoy the full cruise to view the beautiful West Somerset Coast & Porlock Bay £27 SC £25

To Book Call 0845 130 4647 or BOOK ONLINE www.waverleyexcursions.co.uk

Putting Vale values on map, nationally and internationally

IN my last GEM column, I reported on the launch of 'Adding Value II', showcasing examples of good practice in procurement and delivery.

Projects in the Vale are featured in this guide for 2009-10, including the Peterston Church in Wales Primary School, which has become one of the Vale Council's 'eTrading for Schools' pioneers.

This scheme is being led by four local authorities in Wales, including the Vale, providing schools with a secure electronic environment for best value purchasing of their supplies.

Using keywords or codes, online catalogues from regional and national suppliers can be searched, comparing items to secure best value. In the guide the benefits are highlighted as follows:

'Reduced time taken on procurement activities means that staff are able to focus on core teaching activities.'

It is also good to see the construction of Cowbridge Comprehensive School being showcased in this guide. With this £21.5m redevelopment of the school, with substantial Welsh Assembly Government investment, I am looking forward to my visit to the school in September to see the new building, which is inspiring pupils and staff.

The approach to procurement for the new school has included embedding sustainable procurement and operations, attaining maximum value for money and delivering the project on time, to budget and agreed quality.

Community and economic benefits were key to this project, including the use of local labour which stands at 91 per cent of the workforce employed to date, and orders to local subcontractors of £8.3m out of a total spend of £8.5m helping the local economy through the downturn.

These are important examples of Wales leading the way in addressing economic and educational needs in these challenging times, as we seek to protect our public capital budgets in Wales in 2010, benefiting the public and private sectors.

We continue to roll out our new laws, including the Carers Measure to introduce new requirements on the NHS to work with local authorities to produce a Carers Information Strategy. It will also seek to ensure that young carers' needs are recognised.

I was able to share these developments with an MP from southern Australia, Frances Bedford, State Member for Florey, who visited the Assembly and brought news and a message from Julia Gillard, the Prime Minister of Australia, currently fighting a tough election campaign.

She spoke of Julia's commitment to developing a vibrant economy with strong public services, and I will soon be presenting her message to the people of Barry to the Mayor of the Town Council, Coun Karl Kuhnell. Her message shows her commitment and affinity with Wales and the town of Barry in particular.

"Wales and the beautiful seaside town of Barry hold a special place in my heart and I still have memories of playing in Queen Street as a child and my return visit as a teenager in the late 1970s."

This message will be important to all generations living in Barry, including our young people. Last Sunday, I was delighted to join the families and friends of more than 30 Girl Guides and Rangers from Barry, who were leaving for their international camp in Oxford, where they will be meeting Guides from across the world.

They will be proud ambassadors of Barry, and the Vale as well. They will also have bright futures to look forward to with the education and prospects we can offer in Wales.

ASSEMBLY NOTES

by Jane Hutt AM

(Assembly Minister for Business and Budget)

Advice surgery

VALE AM Jane Hutt will be holding a surgery this Saturday, August 14, at 115 High Street Barry, from 10am-12 noon.

No appointment is necessary. For more information, telephone the constituency office on 01446 740981.

Roadworks in Barry

Pontypridd Street, junction with Mount Pleasant – footway restriction in place.

Barry Docks Link Road (Railway bridge) – temporary traffic control.

RAINBOW PROJECT GOES ON A SPECIAL TOUR OF THE SENEDD

MEMBERS, volunteers and organisers of MIND in the Vale's Rainbow Project were welcomed to the Senedd by Vale AM Jane Hutt, for a tour of the building.

The Rainbow Project is an open access mental health resource centre in Llantwit Major offering support and information as well as activities, courses and events in a friendly setting.

It is a western Vale project of the charity Mind in the Vale of Glamorgan, which also has projects covering Barry and Penarth.

The AM said: "It was wonderful to chat with some of the people involved with Mind's Rainbow Project.

"Congratulations to them on raising more than £250 at their annual summer fete in July!"

For more information on Mind in the Vale, contact its head office on 01446 730792.

Jane Hutt AM is pictured with members of MIND in the Vale's Rainbow Project during their tour of the Senedd.

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VOLUNTEERS AND BIFFAWARD'S COMBINED ACHIEVEMENT

VALE MP OPENS COMMUNITY GARDEN

Village volunteers praised by MP for their hard work in creating terraced gardens

***RIGHT:** View of the new gardens and across the surrounding countryside.*

***ABOVE:** Alun Cairns MP (left) with a group involved with the creation of the garden: Phil Summers, chair LCHA; Jenny Thomas LCHA committee; Jane O'Brien Biffa; Dave Jones, chair Hall Garden group; Peter Whiting, treasurer LCHA; and Jenny Whiting.)*

View of the Llansannor Community Hall and gardens.

VALE MP Alun Cairns formally opened the new terraced gardens at the Llansannor Community Hall recently in front of some 70 residents and their friends.

Creating the terraced gardens has involved rebuilding the collapsed old stone walls surrounding the hall site, and terracing into the steep embankment, left when the new hall was built in 2006, to form patios and low-maintenance planted areas.

The work has been largely carried out by local volunteers and funded by a generous grant from Biffaward, a multi-million pound environment fund managed by the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts, which uses landfill tax credits donated by Biffa Waste Services.

Further support has come from the community council and Llansannor Community Hall Association (LCHA).

Phil Summers (chair of the LCHA) thanked Mr Cairns for coming to Llansannor to open the garden, saying how pleased everyone was with the outcome of the project. Not only did it improve the environment surrounding the hall, but it would provide very useful outside patios areas where hall users could gather when the weather was good, to fully appreciate the beautiful view as it is set high above the Thaw valley.

Dr Dave Jones, chair of the Llansannor Hall Garden group, welcomed Jane O'Brien, regional account manager, Wales & South West Biffa Waste Services, and thanked Biffa and all those who had contributed to the creation of the gardens.

While confirming that they had been designed to be low-maintenance, he invited anyone in the community who wanted to help maintain and develop them over the coming years to contact him.

Alun Cairns MP praised the work of all those involved and congratulated the community on an excellent example of how, by working with the local council and with support from the private sector, it was possible for them to make a real difference to the community.

PS

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Official Government fuel consumption figures (Range): Urban cycle, Extra urban, Combined (litres per 100km/mpg) & CO2 emissions (g/km); Highest: New Citroën C3 1.6 VTi 120hp Auto: 9.6/29.4, 5.3/53.3, 6.9/40.9, 158. Lowest: New Citroën C3 1.6HDi 90hp Airdream+: 4.7/60.1, 3.3/85.6, 3.8/74.3, 99.

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SOUTH ROAD, BRIDGEND INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, BRIDGEND, MID GLAMORGAN, CF31 3UL www.bassettsbridgend.citroen.co.uk

Local store joins forces with children's charity

WELSH children are leading a new campaign delivering a 'homegrown' message in the fruit and vegetable aisles of local supermarkets, to highlight the needs of vulnerable children across Wales.

The 'We're Homegrown Too' campaign has been launched by Welsh children's charity, Tros Gynnal ,in partnership with Filco, the Welsh supermarket chain established in 1946, and today one of Wales' largest independent grocers.

Imogen and Laurie Morgan, aged eight and 10, will star on charity banners in eight supermarkets across south Wales, including Filco stores in Cowbridge, Llantwit Major and Bridgend.

They will appear alongside three generations of the Filco family, lead by Eleanor Jones who co-founded the supermarket, managing director Ian Hunt - her son-in-law, and grandson Matt Hunt, director of Filco.

The target is to raise £65,000 over 18 months through a series of fundraising activities in and around stores, using the symbolic Welsh national emblem of the leek.

Jackie Murphy, assistant director of Tros Gynnal, which provides support and advocacy services for children in Wales said: "It is easy for vulnerable children in Wales, whether in children's homes or divided families to become invisible. We want to highlight their needs, which are all about nurturing, protecting and growing, by setting our campaign in an everyday shopping environment within a local community."

The campaign will kick off with an in-store leek-themed fancy dress competition. It will also include 100 leek-carrying runners in the Cardiff Half Marathon, and a sponsored climb of the highest mountain in Spain.

Ian Hunt, managing director of Filco said: "We are looking forward to an exciting fundraising campaign with Tros Gynnal. For our 60th anniversary in business, we successfully raised £40,000 for Tenovus, and now our ambitions for our 65th anniversary are even higher. We could not do it without the fantastic help of our staff, customers and suppliers; they are the key to raising funds for the hugely important work of Tros Gynnal in supporting vulnerable children in Wales."

WE WELCOME YOUR NEWS.
Email submissions to: ggem@internet-today.co.uk or write to: The GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, COWBRIDGE CF71 7EL

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

ST CANNA'S Church, Llangan, held a eucharist to mark the bi-centenary of the Rev David Jones (1736–1810).

St Canna's was full to capacity, with worshippers from Llangan, Treoes, St Mary Hill and further afield for this special service, in the presence of the Archbishop of Wales, Dr Barry Morgan.

It was a truly uplifting service, with special prayers for British forces in Afghanistan, and victims of the flood disaster in Pakistan, where thousands have already lost their lives.

Also officiating in this special service was Rev Canon Val Hamer and also present was Rev Canon Peter Raikes. The organist was Mrs Mary Lloyd.

Following the service, refreshments were provided. Celebrations will continue on the following dates: Today, August 12, Dudley Griffiths, a Pentecostal peripatetic minister, will bring a group and a guitar at 12 noon to pray for 30 minutes.

This is the actual anniversary of the death of David Jones.

On Saturday, August 14 at 2.30pm, Rev Brian Higham will talk about the life of Rev David Jones. Poems by pupils of Llangan school will be on display in the church.

Unsightly area

I REFER to the road to Llanhilid, between the Ruthin Common and St Mary's Golf Club Hotel.

I had reason to visit the area this week and was disgusted by the amount of rubbish I saw there.

At one point, there is a mass of building material, paving slabs and bricks. It must have been deposited there by a heavy vehicle.

Further along the road nearer the common, there is a huge mound of garden refuse, including branches of trees and weeds.

This is not including the paper clinging to the trees and bushes.

Should visitors to the St Mary Hill Golf Club travel via this road rather than through the main entrance, I am sure they would have a very poor perception of the area.

CELTIC CYCLE CHALLENGE

WE would like to thank the wonderful group of Cowbridge people who are on a sponsored cycle ride around Scotland, Ireland and Wales to raise money for the 'Stepping Stones Appeal' supporting lung cancer research at Velindre Hospital.

Geoff Graham, Julian Hitchcock, their families and some friends, after months of dedicated training, are cycling the 742 miles from John O'Groats to Cowbridge via the highlands and glens of Scotland, then across the sea to Ireland, and finally home again to Wales (north to south).

It is a great personal challenge for each of them to do it in just 14 days. They will be arriving back next Sunday at Oscar's restaurant next to the Bear Hotel in Cowbridge at around 5pm, after their valiant two-week fundraising adventure, to a warm Vale welcome and a well-earned rest.

The group are hoping to raise at least £25,000 towards the appeal and their efforts, so far, have got them very close to their target – but, of course, any additional donations to Stepping Stones would be greatly appreciated.

Lorraine Wright and Michael Lewis, Cowbridge

TY HAFAN LOTTERY DRAW WINNERS

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number 630.

This weeks first prize winner is from Pentre.

● **£2000:** 706169.

● **The rollover, which now stands at £4,000 was not won this week.**

● **£10:** 190888; 728464; 531633; 799091; 776206; 320684; 239687; 258007; 845963; 280922; 803951; 401590; 151246; 485032; 549764; 795012; 442269; 434399; 531882; 281836.

● **£5:** 187814; 427063; 474723; 851885; 632854; 885849; 681033; 143377; 385055; 682668; 702343; 492302; 752338; 443310; 237858; 861594; 964537; 106439; 716796; 727746; 724621; 123610; 357215, 392650; 136311; 676360; 649540; 139812; 743034; 591290; 145234; 654352; 723991; 898313; 343348; 477199; 341514; 164833; 373098; 212090; 552721; 836369; 864730; 509096; 383635; 504069; 519205; 788573; 809133; 210352; 270651; 660033; 894255; 220788; 209371; 195908; 724465; 802029; 898301; 243806.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

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COWBRIDGE PUPILS BASK IN THEIR END OF YEAR AWARDS

ABOVE: Cowbridge Rotary presented a number of awards,

ABOVE and BELOW:
Some of the Cowbridge pupils with their certificates in Cowbridge Leisure Centre..

COWBRIDGE Comprehensive School celebrated its inaugural Key Stage 3 awards day recently and it proved to be a great success for a large number of students in years 7, 8 and 9 who were rewarded for academic achievement and effort.

They also received platinum merit awards and 100 per cent attendance awards.

During the ceremony, students were presented with certificates in all the academic disciplines, as well as for citizenship and endeavour over the year.

The occasion was an excellent opportunity for staff to congratulate the hard work and dedication shown by Cowbridge students over the past 12 months.

Musical entertainment was provided by PCLO (Primary Cluster Links Orchestra).

The school were delighted to welcome the Mayor and Mayoress of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, members of the Rotary Club of Cowbridge and school governors, as well as parents.

A special thanks should go to Ms Hilary Evans (head of lower school and event organiser), Mr Jonathan Ling (event organiser) and Mrs Julie Williams (for the musical entertainment).

The school would also like to thank Cowbridge Rotary club for its continued support in a variety of areas.

Year-7

Effort awards: Art, Adam Jones; Drama, Sian Dimblebee; Design and technology, Madeline Breed; English, Joseph Blunt; Ethics and philosophy, Ela Emyr; French, Matthew Harper; Geography, Hannah Lee; History, Craig Boxall; ICT, Craig Boxall; Mathematics, Josh Kennedy; Music, Max Lloyd; Physical education, Emily Davies; Science, David Humphreys; Welsh, Warren Ryland.

Achievement awards: Art, Ela Emyr; Drama, Kathryn Rees; Design and technology, Nick Rees; English, Liam Sloane; Ethics and philosophy, Ben Kennedy Thomas; French, Claudia Fevre; Geography, Luke Williams; History, Luke John; ICT, Tom Davey; Mathematics, Ben Jones; Music, Matthew Upcott; Physical education, Megan McNamee; Science, Ellie Rosser; Welsh, Hannah Woodward.

Platinum award: Madeline Breed; Matthew Harper; Caitlin Jones; Hannah Lee; Megan McNamee; Rosa Hartman; Jack Anderson; Ben Jones; Katie Treharne; Rhys Morgan; Sam Aston; Kristian Jones; Oliver Pike; Ellis Rosser; Hannah Woodward; Molly Groves; Nick Rees; Josie Palmer; Scott Thomas; Evie Williams; Rebecca Thomas; Warren Ryland.

Citizenship award: Hannah Woodward.

Endeavour award: Craig Boxall.

100 per cent attendance: Daniel Cox, Evelina Hurford, Erica Stevens, Kristian Jones, Hywell Williams, Megan Bradwick.

Year-8

Effort award: Art, Jack Harrop; Drama, Cai Allin; Design and technology, Luke Lloyd; English, Annabel Curle; Ethics and philosophy, Harry Dowell Bennett; French, Josh Lewis; Geography, Rory Vizard; German, Sean Rowland; History, David Bugler; ICT, Sophia Thomas; Mathematics, Greg Jerwood; Music, Tegan Cecil; Physical education, Annabel Curle; Science, Rhiannon Adams; Welsh, Verity Belle Atkinson.

Achievement award: Art, Emma Atkins; Drama, Alex Arnot; Design and technology, Ben Husk; English, Declan Thomas; Ethics and philosophy, Megan Warburton; French, Catrin Howells; Geography, Ellie Williams; German, Tobias Swann; History, Niamh Gallagher; ICT, Olivia Brown; Mathematics, Toby Swann/Huw Llewellyn; Music, Sophie Thomas; Physical education, George Griffiths; Science, Eleanor Morgan; Welsh, Niamh Gallagher.

Platinum award: Emma Atkins, Clare Davies, Hannah Gaskin, Harrison Pritchard, Sophie Thomas, Rhiannon Adams, Verity-Belle Atkinson, Niamh Gallagher, Angharad Poole, Mattie Roberts, Sean Rowland, Katy Stone, Declan Thomas, Owen Ace, George Griffiths, Elliott Hill, Matthew Howells, Miles Jenkins, Jordan Carpenter, Kate Champion, Tom Higgins, Catrin Howells, Nathan Stephens, Nat Weaver, Josh Thomas.

Citizenship award: Sophie Thomas.

Endeavour award: Gareth Otley.

Stuart Cunningham-Jones award: Declan Thomas.

100 per cent attendance: Alexander Arnot, Sophie Thomas, Emily Manogg, Connor Watkins, William Gamlin.

Year-9

Effort award: Art, Ellie Bastier; Drama, Sameera Armstrong; Design and technology, Hannah Taylor; English, Will Rosser; Ethics and philosophy, Hugh Exley; French, Alex Stevens; Geography, Kyle Davey; German, Ryan Flynn; History, James Thompson; ICT, Ellie Bastier; Mathematics, Sameera Armstrong; Music, Hannah Williams; Physical education, Jason Sami; Science, Anna Wynne; Welsh Matthew Jacka.

Achievement award: Art, Lesley Tinkler; Drama, Hanna/Megan Jones; Design and technology, John Fundell; English, Hannah Thomas; Ethics and philosophy, Jake Lewis; French, Sophie Williams; Geography, Anwen Smith; German, Angharad Davies; History, Caitlin Allin; ICT, Daisey Sanson; Mathematics, Naduni Jayasinghe; Music, Alex Thomas; Physical education, Caitlin Allin; Science, Naduni Jayasinghe; Welsh, David Howells.

Platinum award: Katie Munro, Emma Housley, Sophie Pitcock, Ieuan Luke, Melissa gooding, William Griffin, Matthew Tomlinson, Sam Woollett, Emma Travers-Jones, Michael Walsh, Oliver Bayer, Ellie Williams, Rachel Aspinall, Will John, William Painter, Freya Hilton, Alexander Jones, Alexander Stephens, Harri Collier, Ryan Flynn, Harri Thomas, Leslie Tinkler, Caitlin Houtari-Griffiths, Hayley Johnson, Jake Lewis, Ceri Richmond.

Citizenship award: Eleanor Hill.

Endeavour award: Anna Wynne.

100 per cent attendance: Rosemary Lovatt, Daniel Love, Michael Walsh.

JL

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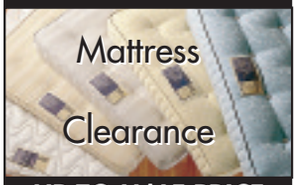

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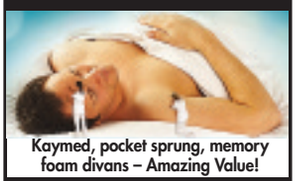

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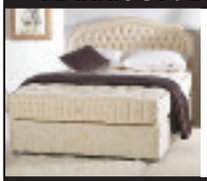

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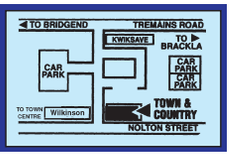

Cruise and Diaz sparkle, but action comedy is not much to write home about

SCREEN TALK

by GARETH JAMIESON

SINCE his rip-roaring turn as Len Grossman in *Tropic Thunder*, Tom Cruise appears to have discovered a far more prominent funny bone.

Discussions are still ongoing regarding him and Ben Stiller teaming up for a take on *The Hardy Boys*, but 'The Cruiser' seems to be feeling the attraction for broad comedy.

His latest film, *Knight and Day*, sees him team up again with Cameron Diaz, nine years after *Vanilla Sky*. Diaz plays June Havens, a woman who finds her life becoming tangled up with secret agent Roy Miller (Cruise), who has, according to one CIA bigwig, 'gone off the reservation', blowing up a laboratory and taking hostage an inventor (Paul Dano) and his everlasting battery invention.

The couple travel around the globe in order to stay one step ahead of the FBI, led by Agent Fitzgerald (Peter Saarsgaard) - but is Roy the innocent or guilty party in proceedings?

While some people are keen to pigeonhole Tom Cruise as a limited actor who coasts by on star wattage and charisma alone, he has done much to highlight he is anything but.

Working with the likes of Kubrick, Scorsese, Spielberg, Mann and Anderson, Cruise has a CV that puts even the most renowned actors to shame, and certainly knows how to raise his game.

However, the world of comedy is one that Cruise has rarely ventured into, but one that, as *Tropic Thunder* evidenced, he is quite adept at.

Knight and Day is therefore a good platform for the actor to show off his comedic chops, given that it comes with the action spectacle that he has been more keen to explore in the last decade or so. However, the end result is a film that, while entertaining, is far too slight, and 'cruises' (sorry for the pun) along on the charm of the two leads.

Much of the blame for this can be apportioned to a script that could be the dictionary definition of the term 'development hell' – in brief, the script has been knocking around for more than a decade, has passed through a multitude of directors, been offered to a multitude of stars and has undergone numerous rewrites.

The upshot of this is that the film you see on screen has all the thumbmarks of the various rewrites, feeling tonally awkward with a plot that tends to go round in circles before plopping a big reveal that goes nowhere. While it tries to cover its tracks a touch by zipping along at a fair old pace, in the cold light of day the lack of a coalescing tone means that its down to the leads to save the day.

It's something that both Tom Cruise and Cameron Diaz are more than up to the task of doing, and while the pair offer nothing approaching their finest turns, they offer up performances that are entertaining and likeable, and help to propel the film along.

Cruise, in particular, seems to be having great fun here, skewering the Ethan Hunt character from the *Mission: Impossible* franchise to wonderful effect, playing the role completely straight but with a glint in the eye.

There's plenty of Cruise's usual acting tics, but he parlays this into a decent performance that, following Len Grossman, shows that he is more than willing to take the brunt of the joke.

Alongside him, Diaz offers another variation on her likeable everywoman, acting as the audience's eyes as we find ourselves dragged into this world of espionage, much like her character.

Diaz is a sparkling comedic actress when on form, and while not bringing her best here, still provides a turn that is humorous and pleasing; she shares a chemistry with Cruise that lights up the screen, the pair taking great delight in playing off each other.

Given how much weight is given to the leads, the rest of the cast are given short shrift, both in terms of performance time and character depth.

While Peter Saarsgaard does shadowy wonderfully well, his character is given very little in the way of depth, while Paul Dano is wasted in an inconsequential turn that could have gone to any two-bit actor, as opposed to a BAFTA award-winning one.

It's Marc Blucas who hits home the most, despite the short screentime, bringing a humorous buffoonery to the character of June's exboyfriend.

In the director's chair, James Mangold has shown he is more than capable of handling weighty fare, such as *Cop Land* and *Walk The Line*, and here shows he isn't too bad at the frothier stuff, either.

Bringing an OTT relish to the action sequences, that straddles the line between being funny but with a serious amount of carnage, Mangold gives the film the look and feel of a blockbuster movie.

The camera relishes the locales that make up the characters' adventures (even if some of the greenscreen is amazingly shoddy for a film of this size).

The homage to the likes of *North by Northwest* is played with zeal, though coming nowhere near that quality, and Mangold shows a pleasing lightness of touch.

Ultimately, *Knight and Day* almost survives in spite of itself, the screenplay doing the film no favours but the performances of Cruise and Diaz, and the direction, makes it more watchable than it should have been.

It isn't a jaw dropping piece of work by any means, but as a slice of popcorn entertainment it does the job – but only just.

VERDICT: Slightly disappointing given the talent involved, *Knight and Day* manages to stay the right side of fun – despite a script that isn't 100 per cent sure what it actually is.

With performances from Tom Cruise and Cameron Diaz that elevate the material, and James Mangold's light direction, *Knight and Day* is a passable blockbuster, but nothing more. *Enjoyable*.

New Zealand's finest in charity gourmet evening

THE VALE Resort in Hensol is supporting the NSPCC's 'Building Brighter Futures' appeal with a Kiwi food and wine evening on Thursday, August 26.

The family-owned and run Resort will host the educational and fun evening in collaboration with Allan Scott Wines, one of New Zealand's leading wineries.

Eighty places are available for the intimate evening and the £50 price per person includes carefully-selected wines and a delicious themed four-course dinner at the Resort, which has been awarded an AA Rosette for its cuisine.

The NSPCC's appeal funds the development of services for children and young people in Wales who have suffered emotional, physical and sexual abuse. This event is the first of the Vale Resort's fundraisers for the charity. A golf tournament will be held on the Resort's award-winning PGA courses in October.

Carol Gillanders, NSPCC Building Brighter Futures appeal campaign manager, said: "We are thrilled and grateful that the Vale Resort is holding this fantastic event in aid of our Building Brighter Futures appeal.

"I have no doubt that this event will be a success and that everyone attending will have a great time."

To book, call 01443 665863 For more information, see the newly revamped website at: www.vale-hotel.com

By donating to the Building Brighter Futures appeal, the public can help to change a child's life.To make a donation, visitwww.nspcc.org.uk/brighter-futures

For further information about the NSPCC, visit www.nspcc.org.uk

PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS WALK

'Big Dipper' is Europe's highest sand dune

RECENTLY, on a beautiful summer morning, seven walkers plus canine friends Jodie, Muttley, Bronte and Bracken and leader Val Williams travelled down to Newton, passing the lovely old village church dedicated to St John to park near the beach.

Newton dates back to the 12th century and was founded as the 'New Town' being close to the Saxon settlement of Nottage.

By the 17th century it was a thriving port exporting wheat and oats and importing fruit and salt. It now caters for holiday makers at nearby Trecco Bay, sun worshippers, walkers, horse riders, surfers and water sport enthusiasts.

As the tide was in, the leader had decided to do her walk the opposite way around and a well-used path between houses led them through Newton Burrows, where the dogs enjoyed their freedom, to the lovely narrow tracks through the woods at Merthyr Mawr Warren.

There, they collected another group member who had mistakenly parked at Merthyr Mawr, thinking that was the start point and by sheer luck had managed to bump into them.

Because they had four dogs, the group by-passed Cwm y Befos, which is usually full of sheep and a short while later stopped on the grass verge on the Candleston lane to enjoy morning coffee before trekking down the quiet lane to the small village of Tythegston where all the properties sport very smart metal plates outside with the name of the property and the estate crest.

From the Welsh Llan Dudwg, this village name is derived from the now disused church that is dedicated to St Tydwg who was one of the disciples of Cenydd, who flourished during the middle of the 6th century.

Back in the 1800s the village that was described as containing arable and pasture land was split into two hamlets – upper and lower.

The upper hamlet contained iron ore, coal and clay that was utilised for brick making and items were carried by rail to the small harbour at Porthcawl and shipped out.

The lower hamlet contained a school that was established to educate the poor children and supported by subscription from well to do local residents.

A stone stile led them into a huge field of long damp grass and, crossing two stiles they walked along a pathway through a tall maize crop into an open field that was planted with new saplings and down a steep path through a small wood to meadows that overlooked Laleston.

Re-entering empty fields they walked beside Coed Cwintin, through Candleston Farm and along a sandy path that led them past the 'Big-Dipper' – the highest single sand dune in Europe, to the ruined 12th century Candleston Castle, a fortified manor house owned by the Cantaloupe family and now only occupied by bats and the odd ghost!

The present warren is all that is left of what was the largest sand dune continuing on to emerge beside the River Ogmore as it made its way to the sea.

At the estuary they turned westwards and tramped along the lovely sandy beach at Traeth yr Afon, passing the Black Rocks before returning to Newton, with four very happy dogs after a brilliant day.

Today (August 12), the last of the summer evening walks takes place, meet at 7pm at Nash Point for a three-mile moderate walk in the area; contact Val . on 01446 734925.

On August 14, meet at 9.30am at the Barry Waterfront for an eight-mile moderate walk (with some rough walking) in the Craig y Nos area; contact Barbara on 01446 734686.

On August 15, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for an 11-mile moderate walk at Trellech, near Monmouth; contact Nick on 01446 420540.

On walks, wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks.

Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, then please contact the walk leader for advice.

For other groups' walks, log onto www.ramblers.org.uk. Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 02920 219102.

JOY STRANGWARD

Llantwit Major Craft and Gift Fairs

14th August in the Llantonian Hall, (to the rear of the library car park) **10am-3pm**

Come and visit this popular event on Saturday from 10am-3pm in the Llantonian Hall, behind the Library. Lots of new and interesting stalls, some regulars and lovely eats. An opportunity to chat, browse and buy that treat or present.

Enquiries, contact Peta Shields
T:01656 890353 E:peta@peartreecott.co.uk

Out and About with The GEM

A Bridgend band receives accolade in Copenhagen

Mabon will be performing in Copenhagen this autumn.

LOCAL band Mabon, whose members come from Bridgend and the Vale, have been selected to showcase for Wales at this autumn's WOMEX world music trade fair in Copenhagen.

The Welsh festival favourites will also launch their first-ever live album *Live at the Grand Pavilion* at Fairport's famous Cropredy Convention in Oxfordshire on Friday, August 13, recorded on their OK UK tour last autumn at Porthcawl.

Bang! school winner

THE winner of our recent competition for a place at the Bang! summer school was Saskia Pay of Cowbridge - keep an eye out for more great Glamorgan GEM competitions!

Win Olympic and Paralympic stamp sets

OLYMPIC hopefuls across Wales have been helping to launch the second of Royal Mail's London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games stamps.

The stamps issued in July mark a key milestone in the countdown – two years to the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games – and readers of The Glamorgan GEM have the chance to win a presentation pack of these impressive stamps.

The latest stamp issue, subtitled 'On Track for 2012', features a fresh set of ten dynamic images championing Olympic and Paralympic sports.

The stamps feature ten established Olympic and Paralympic sports like hockey, goalball and football, and more recent additions including taekwondo and BMX cycling.

To win a set of Olympic stamps in a special presentation pack simply answer the following question: **What year do the London Olympics take place? A) 2012; B) 2022; C) 3012?**

Send your answer on a postcard, marked Olympic Stamps, to The Glamorgan GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL, no later than Friday, August 20.

Normal competition rules apply and judge's decision is final - good luck!

Cream teas

FRIENDS and Neighbours, a local over-50s group, held a very successful strawberry cream tea at the Senior Health Shop in Barry.

Jane Hutt spent a pleasant afternoon chatting to the group, which meets once a month at the shop and enjoys a wide range of activities and talks.

New members are welcome and can contact the secretary, Gay Fifield, on 01446 400044 for further information.

LEGION REMEMBERS

THE Barry branch of the Royal British Legion will be holding a service on Saturday, August 14 at 10.30am for 11am at the Cenotaph, Barry Memorial Hall, to commemorate VJ 1945 and the Battle of Kohima.

Wreaths will be laid at this service to remember the fallen (British and Allied Forces), and to pay tribute to them.

All are welcome to attend and if any wreaths or crosses are required, contact the Poppy Appeal organisers on 01446 710901.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.

DS

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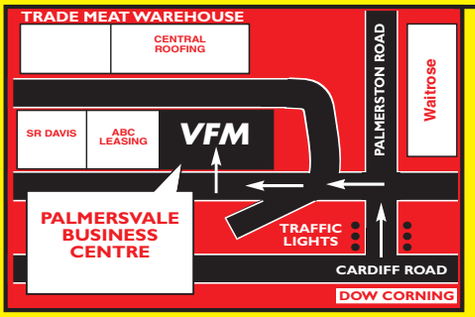

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Inspirational Homes

Increase in Welsh house sales shows that the market is moving

– SAYS CHARTERED SURVEYORS' SPOKESMAN

DEMAND for property in Wales is among the highest in the UK, according to this month's Housing Market Survey from the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

The housing market in Wales has seen strong figures for the number of new buyer enquires and newly agreed sales. Both figures are the second highest in the UK, and significantly outperform the national average. Moreover, chartered surveyors in Wales are increasingly expecting an increase in sales looking forward across the next quarter.

In total, 32 per cent more Welsh chartered surveyors saw a rise rather than a fall in newly agreed sales. The figure has soared compared to last month, which was only nine per cent.

Wales is the second best performing in this sector to the west midlands, with the national average of just two per cent.

Looking forward over the next three months, 28 per cent more chartered surveyors are expecting a rise in new sales compared to a fall, compared to the national average of 19 per cent.

In Wales, 19 per cent more chartered surveyors experienced an increase rather than a decrease in the last month in new buyer enquiries. This compares to a negative national average of five per cent more surveyors who saw a decrease rather than a rise, with the only region higher than Wales being the North of England.

However, Wales is underperforming on price as supply continues to increase in the market with 35 per cent more Welsh chartered surveyors experiencing a rise rather than a decline in new instructions. This is up on the previous month from 14 per cent.

On price, 10 per cent more chartered surveyors in Wales have seen a decline rather than a rise. This is likely to be the case going forward with 30 per cent more chartered surveyors anticipating a decline in price rather than a fall.

The increase in supply has seen the average stock of property on a surveyors' books rise to 138 from 109. The average number of sales per surveyor in Wales has risen from 14 to 15, while the sales to stock ratio – a key indicator of market slack – has dropped from 12 to 11 and is the lowest of all UK regions.

Tony Filice, residential spokesperson for the RICS Wales and director of Kelvin Francis Chartered Surveyors, said: "A shortage of stock has been one factor holding back transaction activity in the housing market, but the suspension of HIPs is helping to belatedly address this issue. This is likely to be reflected in higher sales numbers over the coming months.

"Wales has seen supply increase in the housing market which is currently exceeding the amount of sales we are experiencing. There is a risk that there may be some modest slippage in prices during the second half of the year, which can be seen in the drop of confidence within surveyors' expectations but this month's housing market survey is not a negative picture for Wales.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 16)

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Inspirational Homes

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15)

"It is key that Wales continues to report strong and maintained sales figures, as well as new buyer enquiries, as this shows that the market is moving and interest is continuing to grow. Buyers and vendors have been affected by the national turmoil of the last few months which has included an election, change of government, suspension of HIPs and a budget which have all had a part to play in a level of uncertainty in the market.

"Vendors are noticeably not keen to accept lower prices. They have already seen severe declines in property prices throughout the recession and can see evidence of the market recovering. While there continues to be a positive buyer interest, vendors can bide their time and ride out the short term drop in price confidence until the market once again stabilises.

"The larger number of properties coming on to the market should help to bolster activity, which has been depressed partly because of a lack of choice for home buyers. Sales are expected to rise over the coming months.

"However, there are still difficulties obtaining mortgages. Whereas 12 months ago, banks and building societies were happy to offer favourable rates to those with a 10 per cent deposit, now they are seeking larger deposits of up to 20 per cent for these rates.

"This is disappointing, as it will slow down the market; first time buyers will have to wait longer before stepping on to the housing ladder and this sector is key to a strong housing market."

P.D.K

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Handy tips for dealing with the army of slugs heading for YOUR garden!

THE Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) is sending out a slug and snail alert.

Due to the recent and prolonged dry period both slugs and snails will have been dormant.

However, with the forecast of continuing heavy rain, the charity expects them to start moving about again and to be quite hungry... The RHS suggests a number of ways to protect plants.

For those who prefer more natural ways of control, the charity suggests that it will be necessary to water in a new batch of nematodes (Nemaslug) as any distributed previously will have died in the dry soil.

The nematodes used against slugs are microscopic worm-like creatures that enter the bodies of slugs and infect them with a fatal bacterial disease.

Barriers, such as copper tapes round pots or mineral granules and egg shells sprinkled around plants are also useful to discourage slugs and snails getting to the plants.

Alternatively, proprietary slug pellets containing ferric phosphate or metaldehyde can be used if the infestation is particularly bad.

For further information, the RHS has a web page with more handy tips.

It can be found by searching for 'Slugs' on the RHS site www.rhs.org.uk.

EOIN REDAHAN, (RHS)

Warmth scheme award

NPOWER'S Health Through Warmth scheme, which operates in the Vale and 14 other areas of Wales and England, has been highly commended at a national awards ceremony for its work helping vulnerable residents.

The scheme, managed locally by the Vale Council, received a highly commended certificate at the Business in the Community (BitC) Awards for Excellence event.

This recognises assistance given to residents who have cold and damp-related illnesses, but who don't have adequate heating and insulation in their homes and are unable to fund the work themselves. The scheme had been shortlisted as a 'National Example of Excellence' in the award category, 'Building Stronger Communities'.

Approximately 100 leading companies enter the BitC Awards for Excellence every year.

Health Through Warmth relies on community workers referring people to the scheme and funding is accessed from a variety of sources, including the npower Health Through Warmth Crisis Fund, government grants and charitable funds to help pay for appropriate heating and insulation measures.

It was launched in the Vale in 2003 and has received more than 2,400 referrals.

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Inspirational Homes

Gardens fenced in to keep out troublemakers

THE final stage of environmental improvements to people's homes in areas of Brackla, Bridgend, has been completed.

The project involved adding boundaries and fencing to the estate and individual properties, within the WWHA residential area, as part of the £113,000 boundary wall scheme.

A spokeswoman explained that Wales and West residents had expressed concerns that open-plan gardens can contribute to problems of anti-social behaviour.

As part of a continued policy to improve the environment and in consultation with residents, the decision was taken to provide them with clearly defined garden areas.

"This has the benefit of clearly defining which areas are not communal and that are private to residents."

GKR Building Maintenance Co Ltd has a partnering agreement with WWHA which entails completing 500 kitchen renewals across south Wales. As a result of this programme, the Caerphilly-based Maintenance Company has also finished further work at The Meadows, including improving the kitchen facilities of 135 properties.

"The improvements ensure that kitchens are up-to-date and, most importantly, environmentally friendly.

"The planned kitchen upgrade programme has been running over the past 12 months, for properties in Heol Y Rhos, Heol Bryn Glas, Cloy Y Waun, Clos Y Wern and Dan Y Coed Rise," the spokeswoman said. Residents at The Meadows would undoubtedly benefit from the improvements, and GKR hoped changes they have made will have a significant impact on the environment.

Gordon Taylor, resident of The Meadows Brackla and former WWHA board member, stated:

"GKR has done a great job in improving the residential area.

"We can enjoy peace and quiet in our gardens and not have to worry about unwelcome invasion and noise."

Get chores done

THE torrential downpours and cooler temperatures of recent days seem to be heralding the approach of autumn – so now is the time to make sure those essential garden chores are done before any bad weather sets in for good.

Of course, we all hope for an Indian summer, but if September fails to deliver that blessing, it is reassuring to know your garden is prepared for the months ahead.

Make sure your shed, fencing and decking are protected with durable wood preserver.

Clean your lawnmower before it is put away for the winter months, and drains and gutters need to be properly cleaned, too, ensuring that blockages don't cause overflows in the winter.

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Ladies looking forward to cruise

RHOOSE WI held its monthly meeting at the Community Hall on July 1.

After receiving welfare reports and concluding other business, members spent the evening making arrangements for future events.

Names were submitted for the annual WI bursary; the winner will be able to study a subject of their choice and will receive help with funding from the Institute.

On July10, there was to be a coffee morning at the home of Avril Phillips at Wesley Road. Money raised will be shared between the WI and Ty Hafan children's hospice.

On July 16, members combined a pleasant walk with lunch at the 'Blue Anchor' – walkers were to meet at the village pump.

Arrangements were also made for the annual educational trip and members are very much looking forward to a cruise on the Gloucester canals on September 23.

Since there was no speaker, the evening ended with a very enjoyable quiz provided by Brenda Rowe.

The last item on the agenda was the summer social evening due to be held at the Community Hall, in Stewart Road.

JJ

Colcot surgery

PCSO Mandy Michael and members of the Dyfan Neighbourhood Policing Team will be holding a PACT surgery at the Colcot Arms, Colcot Road, Barry on Thursday, August, 19 between 3pm and 5pm.

PCSO Michael said: "Local surgeries are an important part of the regular PACT initiative.

" We look forward to meeting local residents who can come along for a chat about any issues in the area which may be worrying them.

"Why not ask us if we can carry out a crime prevention survey in your home?

"If you are interested, we can arrange a convenient time to come and offer some security tips and advice on property marking."

WE WELCOME YOUR NEWS!
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It's a female face-off in the fight for the Vale

ABOVE: Angela Jones-Evans, the Conservative challenger for Jane Hutt AM seat.

THE Vale AM, Jane Hutt, will this time face a female Conservative challenger at next May's National Assembly elections.

The Vale of Glamorgan seat is bound to be closely watched, because Labour are defending a majority of just 83.

In 2007, she polled 11,515 votes, with Coun Gordon Kemp, now the Vale Council Leader, polling 11,432.

This time around, the Conservatives have chosen Angela Jones-Evans, who stood against Labour's Kevin Brennan in Cardiff West in this year's general election.

Mrs Jones-Evans was born and brought up in south Wales and is married with two sons. She owns her own research and training business.

She told the GEM: "I am delighted to have been selected as the Conservative candidate for the Vale of Glamorgan.

"For too long, the constituency has been ignored by the Welsh Assembly Government and I will strive to make sure that the voice of local people from all parts of the Vale is heard throughout the corridors of power in Cardiff Bay.

"There are many opportunities for a Conservative AM to work with colleagues in the council and with our newly-elected MP at Westminster, to attract new business into the area and to support the growth and development of the excellent businesses we have here already."

She said that making sure the Vale received its fair share of funding from the Assembly would be a priority.

She added: "I will also be an advocate to maintain vital services, such as the Barry Magistrates Court, and will be a strong voice for improved school and healthcare resources in the constituency."

Plaid Cymru names Assembly candidate

PLAID CYMRU has selected Dr Ian Johnson to be the party's candidate for the Vale of Glamorgan in next year's Welsh Assembly elections.

Dr Ian Johnson.

The selection meeting, held in the Lee Hall, Dinas Powys, was unanimous in backing Dr Johnson, who was Plaid's candidate in the recent UK general election.

South Wales Central Assembly Member, Chris Franks, said: "Dr Ian Johnson was an excellent candidate for Plaid Cymru during the general election and it will be a pleasure to have him standing for the party once again in the Welsh Assembly election next year.

"There are very few candidates who have such a detailed local knowledge as Ian, being born and raised in Barry and the Vale, as well as a wider knowledge and experience of politics and life in general.

"Plaid Cymru finished a strong third in the last Assembly election and Ian would make an exceptional and highly effective Assembly Member, if elected next year."

Plaid Cymru's council group leader, Coun Margaret Randall, agreed:

"He works very hard, understands the area well and is always friendly and polite, even with his opponents, working with everyone across parties and the community to get the right result."

PACT meetings

COURT PACT SURGERY, the HUB, YMCA, Gladstone Road, Barry between 3pm-5pm on August 19 .

DYFAN PACT SURGERY, Colcot Arms public house between 3pm-5pm on August 19.

BUTTRILLS PACT, Philip John Community Room, Barry Library, August 26, at 6.30pm.

PENDOYLAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL, Pendoylan School, August 12, at 7.45pm.

LLANDOW PACT, Ewenny Village Hall, August 18, at 7pm.

RHOOSE PACT, Celtic Way Community Centre, August 24, at 7pm.

There are no PENARTH PACT meetings during August.

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ABOVE: The dancing horse.

PHOTOS by GLYN EVANS

ABOVE: A true heavyweight contender!

Clean rounds are just the ticket for pony club aces

Glamorgan Pony Club ended the two rounds on zero faults!

GLAMORGAN Pony Club sent four riders off to the novice team show jumping qualifiers at Monmouth Pony Club on Sunday, August 1.

The team comprsed: Ellie Dix on *Moss*, Bethany Jarvis on *Alfie*, Ellie Medlicott on *My Little Smartie* and Alice Pembridge on *Mattie*.

There were 20 other teams competing over two rounds, with Glamorgan the only team to end the two rounds on zero faults and winning outright.

They will now go on to represent South Wales & Borders at the Pony Club Novice Championships in Cheshire on August 28.

Local rider Joanne Wilkins also qualified as winning individual rider.

The team also finished second in the 'tack and turn out', so not only did they perform well, they also looked good.

A club spokeswoman said: "It has been a couple of years since a team from the club has qualified, so this is a huge achievement for the girls, and we are very proud of them.

"We look forward to the challenge of the championships, and with some trepidation for the long journey to get there."

Anyone interested in joining Glamorgan Pony Club, should contact Norma Griffiths 01446 734687.

Cowbridge businessman welcomes WAG's new rural planning ideas

CLA Wales is calling on the Vale of Glamorgan Council to embrace the new planning guidance announced by the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG).

The Wales chairman, Cowbridge-based John Homfray, spoke at the Vale of Glamorgan Show and welcomed the move, which is designed to boost the rural economy and increase the provision of affordable housing.

In particular, he is keen to follow up comments that the WAG is in discussion with local authorities to ensure that they are up to speed with developments.

Mr Homfray continued: "This new planning guidance is really very exciting. What is really good is that with rural issues, Wales is so often in advance of England.

"The CLA looks after both Wales and England and I very much hope we can work with the Welsh local authorities to set examples of good practice that England will want to emulate.

"This Technical Advice Note 6 is a real example of grasping the issue of affordable housing, particularly blockage on farms. The WAG guidance is incredibly helpful and we're absolutely 100 per cent in support of it."

However, he warned that in exchange for these relaxations, the industry has to accept that the conditions will be strictly proscribed so that there is absolutely no opportunity or question of it being abused.

A benefit is that it will make it easier for farmers to build a new home on their land, so that they can pass their business on to a younger person, while continuing to live on the farm.

The TAN also supports the Assembly Government's sustainable development scheme, by encouraging One Planet Developments that have a low environmental impact.

SUPPORTERS ARE OUT IN FORCE TO GIVE HELPING HAND TO MARIE CURIE HOSPICE

THE annual garden fete at the Marie Curie Hospice Penarth (Holme Tower) took place last weekend, and was blessed with good weather.

Supporters of the charity came along to support the fundraising day, and to show how much the hospice means to people in the area.

Local organisations took stalls and there was a constant buzz during the afternoon, with plenty to occupy all age groups!

The pictures on this page were taken by MIKE WILCOCK.
They are available to order from wilcock60@aol.com
or telephone 01446 774502.

ABOVE (left to right): Alun Michael MP, Karen Jones from Marie Curie, Lorraine Barrett AM, and Jonathan Hill from ITV.

NEWS FROM THE FONMON APIARY

A warning: 'Bee-ware the novice beekeeper!'

HAS swarming finished? In the main it has; however, there is always the exception to the rule.

Those beginners who now have bees courtesy of the swarms, should have been feeding them with syrup (sugar and water mixture) as per instructions. Some have, and some have not.

Those that have can now see the benefit of their actions in a well-populated hive with possibly a super (extra box) added.

For those who have not, there is a distinct lack of bees present and very little foundation drawn out into useable honeycomb. The chances of these undernourished bees making it through the coming winter are not very good.

Beginners will, I know, have had high hopes of taking honey from their bees. They will not do so, as the bees will need all the stores for themselves.

Experienced beekeepers will now be considering some form of Varroa control and possibly the replacement of queens within their hives.

New young queens can certainly add to the vigour of the hive and, of course, there is the bonus that the hive will be less likely to swarm the following year.

A queen who is some 2-3 years old will have already begun to deplete her store of sperm. Her egg laying capacity will begin to lessen. It is eggs which have had sperm added to them that become worker bees (female) and as the name suggests, they do the work.

Beekeepers seeking a honey crop want a hive well populated with worker bees.

As to the Varroa, this parasite has to be taken seriously. Several beginners have been under the impression that they do not have mites in their hives. I have instructed them to put the insert beneath the open mesh floor, and at a later date we have examined the debris that has fallen through, which included varroa mites.

Like myself, in the first instance, they did not know what they were looking for. On seeing the mites for themselves, they can now monitor their hives and, using the medication available, can keep the numbers of mites to an acceptable level.

The popular treatment, and a very effective one, is 'API-GUARD' but as this substance has chemicals in its make-up, can only be used at the latter part of the year (honey gathering is ceasing) or in the early part of the next year before honey gathering gets underway.

Contamination of the honey or wax cannot be tolerated in any way, hence the time factor.

It is becoming apparent to those new to beekeeping that there is a bit more to it than just putting a hive at the bottom of the garden and leaving the bees to get on with being bees.

So, if you are considering becoming a beekeeper, do visit an apiary with an experienced beekeeper, as the opening and inspection and caring for a well-populated hive of bees may not be for you.

HAROLD WILLIAMS

Bollywood dancing can keep you fit!

BOLLYWOOD dancing is coming to leisure centres in the Vale with a fortnight of dance workshops.

The eye-catching dance moves, which blend the cultures of east and west, can be learned by all abilities and ages from three upwards.

The workshops will be led by young dancing coach and performer Hiral Narbad Shah.

The hour-long workshops cost £1 and start today (Thursday) at the leisure centres in Barry, Cowbridge, Penarth and Llantwit Major.

The sessions are open to both men and women, and please note that you will need to wear loose clothing.

THE Oddfellows are celebrating 200 years of making friends, and helping people.

Everyone is welcome at Oddfellows' events, even if you are not a member.

Forthcoming events: *Lily of the Valley annual dinner on October 13; children's Christmas party, December 19; visit to the pantomime, January 2, 2011.*

The Earl of Dunraven Lodge meet on the fourth Monday of each month at Glamorgan Friends of the Deaf, Coychurch Road, Brackla, CF31 2AP. Information from secretary Mrs Ann Tambini on 01656 860667.

AT the Saturday morning tea/chat, happy birthday was sung to Iris Stephenson, who celebrated her 88th birthday on August 5. Congratulations!

THE local produce market will be held at the church hall on Saturday, August 21, 10.30am to 12.30pm.

WICK Horticultural Society is staging its 42nd annual vegetable and flower show on Saturday, September 4. Admission is 50p, including tea and biscuits, with a raffle and stalls (children free).

VILLAGE funeral: On Friday, August 6, the funeral took place of Aileen Hodgson (affectionately called 'Scouser') of Lon-y-Eglwys, St Brides Major, attended by colleagues from Messrs Hodges of Bridgend.

A wonderful floral tribute was placed on the coffin, behind which came neighbours and friends from the village where she had lived since 1964, and staff from Southways nursing home, Cowbridge.

The service was conducted by Father Philip Morris, who paid tribute to Aileen's jovial banter with neighbour Jim Driver and to her brilliant sense of humour.

After the service, everyone congregated at the Fox and Hounds, St Brides Major, for a buffet and music from her home town of Liverpool.

The buffet was paid for by contributions from the villagers of St Brides, some of whom could not attend, but their thoughts were with Aileen. It was a fantastic tribute to Aileen and one that she wholeheartedly deserved.

The balance of donations will go towards a plaque in her memory and to Southways Nursing Home.

COMMUNITY NEWS
ST BRIDES MAJOR
Your local correspondent is
Patricia Bevan-Morgan
(01656) 880418

BARRY WI REPORT

Ladies' visit national HQ

WHAT a really busy month the ladies of Barry WI had.

The keep fit, sewing circle and monthly afternoon meetings took place, and a strawberry tea was held on behalf of arthritis and WI Funds.

It was well supported and a cheque was presented at the monthly meeting.

Denman College, which is the house for WI members all over the British Isles, was visited by Barry ladies, together with nine ladies from Cadoxton WI. It was a very successful day out, and the weather was glorious. A tour of the house was given and the ladies saw the Glamorgan Room, which was donated by the ladies of Glamorgan WIs.

There will be no meeting in August but 'Happy Birthday' was said to all ladies who will be 70, 80 and 90 in July and August.

Our social committee has booked a Christmas shopping trip to Swindon, and Christmas lunch at The Beechtree.

When we return in September, Peggy Taylor will be celebrating her 90th birthday, and as it is a games night and buffet, Peggy will be putting on the buffet. It will be a great way to celebrate her 90th!

Further details from the secretary on 01446 410139. **JC**

The GEM is in partnership with the Dog's Trust to find caring homes for animals in their charge at Bridgend Rehoming Centre
(Telephone: 01656 725219)

Two in need of a good home

SUMMER is a five-year-old German Shepherd dog.

A centre spokeswoman reports: "She is friendly with people but she can be strong-minded with other dogs, so is best suited as the only dog in the home.

"She is bright and very trainable. In the right home, she will make a fantastic, loyal and loving companion."

As she can be a strong character, she will suit someone with experience of her breed or similar.

She will benefit from some further basic training. She can live with children eight years and over.

SUMMER

PEPPER

TWO-year-old Pepper is a very bright and sharp little Terrier cross, with lots of energy!

She gets on with other dogs, but can be reactive towards them on the lead, so needs further training. She is playful and lots of fun. She is housetrained and fine to be left for a few hours.

She needs an owner who has owned dogs (ideally terriers) before.

She can live with other dogs. Her new owner will need to be active and be able to provide her with lots of fun activities to channel her energy in the right direction.

Barry police in witness appeal

POLICE in Barry are appealing for witnesses who may have been approached by a man offering to carry out odd jobs and gardening in the Castleland area of the town.

The appeal follows the arrest of a 23-year-old local man on suspicion of stealing a purse from a house where he was working for an elderly female.

Detective Sergeant Julian Kerslake, of Barry CID, said: "The suspect is a white male, aged 23 years old but looks a lot younger – about 17 or 18 years old – he has a thin body and facial features and is 5ft 11ins tall. While attending houses he has been seen carrying an Orange Flymo hedge trimmer.

"We want to hear from anyone who may have been approached by this person offering to carry out work for them, particularly in the Castleland area."

Police are advising residents to follow the Police Doorstep Code and not allow any strangers into their homes.

Anyone with information should contact DS Julian Kerslake at Barry CID on 01446 731606, or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

New cafe and offices planned for the marina

THE Vale Council is negotiating with a development company that wants to build a cafe/restaurant and offices at Penarth Marina.

Swanbridge Developments Ltd wants to build on land owned by the council. The news was revealed at a recent meeting of the Vale Council cabinet.

The council is the freehold owner of the Penarth Marina, which it leases to Quay Marinas. The lease began in 1986, and runs for 125 years.

Planning consent for two offices and a café on suspended deck piles was granted in August 2007, but the council has now been approached by Quay Marinas and Swanbridge Developments with a proposal to provide the offices and café on council land next to Compass House.

The report says that it is proposed to construct the proposed development on a suspended deck supported on piles out into the marina.

The cabinet was told in the report that there was a limited supply of café/restaurant facilities in the marina area.

Quay Marinas argue that, without such facilities, business could be lost to Cardiff Bay.

ABOVE: Teacher Mike Chapman of Cowbridge.

Teacher pilots a new approach to learning

A VALE teacher has helped to pioneer a groundbreaking training module, aimed at making Welsh educators the "cream of the crop".

Mike Chapman of Cowbridge, a member of staff at Oakfield Primary School, took part in the module under the General Teaching Council for Wales' (GTCW) Chartered Teacher Pilot scheme.

"It is being developed by the GTCW to give experienced teachers in the middle of their careers the chance to receive professional recognition and to help raise the status and standard of teaching in Wales," a spokeswoman explained.

After completing a year-long trial, Mike volunteered for the extended pilot to widen his and skills.

Mr Chapman has taught for 14 years – following four years as a supply teacher in Cambridge and south Wales, he has spent the past decade at Oakfield. He was involved in the first Charter Teacher module, 'Talk for Thought', in 2007.

"I fancied having a go at it, was fortunately chosen, and went to Swansea Metropolitan University to complete my action research project," he explained.

"I started with the idea of asking the children how they thought they learned, and who they thought they learned from.

"The majority, of course, thought they learned from me, but the plan was to try to bring the assessment for learning ideas into the classroom, with children learning from themselves and from each other, as well as the teachers," he added.

SOS: Rhoose Brownies have lost their flag

THE girls of the 1st Rhoose Brownies have sent out an SOS – for their flag!

A spokeswoman said: "The girls went to a function in Cardiff and it hasn't been seen since – a search at St David's Hall and a check with bus company has been fruitless.

"The girls hoped to use it at the Barry Scout fete, but it still hasn't turned up.

"The flag will be needed over the coming months and the Brownies are disappointed it cannot be found.

"If someone does know where it is, could they please contact Tawny Owl (Pat) on 01446 719587."

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

(A4222 ABERTHIN ROAD (PART) COWBRIDGE)

(PROHIBITION OF WAITING AT ANY TIME)

(AMENDMENT) ORDER 2010

The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than twenty one days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedule below:

Full details of the proposals, to include the proposed Order and plan no T/10/61/CEP may be inspected at the Vale of Glamorgan Council at the address shown below during normal office hours and any objections you may have to this proposal must be submitted to the Head of Visible Services (Ref. IF619) in writing by 3rd September 2010 and must contain the grounds upon which you object.

Persons objecting to the proposed Order are advised that in view of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 this Council is legally obliged to make any comments received in response to the proposed Order open to public inspection.

SCHEDULE

Make New Order

Prohibition of Waiting at Anytime

A4222 Aberthin Road - On its north west side from a point 244 metres north east of its junction with The Paddock for a distance of approximately 480metres north east.

Revoke

The Vale of Glamorgan Council
(A4222 Aberthin Road Cowbridge (Part))
(Prohibition of waiting at Anytime) Order 2004.
TRO 701

Dated this 12th day of August 2010

M. E. Punter
Head of Visible Services
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG 2010 (DIWYGIEDIG)

(GWAHARDD AROS AR UNRHYW ADEG)

(RHAN O ABERTHIN ROAD (A4222) Y BONT-FAEN)

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan adrannau 1 a 2 Deddf Rheoli Traffig 1984 (ddiwygiedig), a phob p_er galluogi arall, yn bwriadu gwneud Gorchymyn ymhen o leiaf un diwrnod ar hugain ar ôl dyddiad y Gorchymyn hwn i'r dibenion cyffredinol a nodwyd yn yr Atodlen isod:

Cewch weld y cynigion llawn, gan gynnwys y Gorchymyn arfaethedig a chynllun T/10/61/CEP yng Nghyngor Bro Morgannwg, yn y cyfeiriad isod, yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa. Dylech gyfeirio unrhyw wrthwynebiad sydd gennych i'r cynnig i Bennaeth Gwasanaethau Gweladwy (Cyf. IF619) ar ffurf llythyr erbyn 3 Medi 2010, gan egluro'ch rhesymau dros ei wrthwynebu.

Os oes gennych wrthwynebiad i'r Gorchymyn, cofiwch fod gan y cyhoedd hawl o dan Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol (Hawl i Wybodaeth) 1985 i weld unrhyw sylwadau sy'n cael eu gwneud, a bod dyletswydd gyfreithiol ar y cyngor i ddarparu ar gyfer hynny.

ATODLEN

Gwneud Gorchymyn Newydd

Gwahardd aros ar unrhyw adeg

Aberthin Road (A4222) – Ar ei hochr ogledd-orllewinol rhwng man sy'n 244 medr i'r gogledd ddwyrain o'r gyffordd â The Paddock a man arall rhyw 480 medr ymhellach i'r gogledd ddwyrain'.

Dirymu

Gorchymyn Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2004
(Gwahardd aros ar unrhyw adeg)
(Rhan o Aberthin Road (A4222), y Bont-faen).
TRO 701

Dyddiedig 12 Awst 2010

M. E. Punter
Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Gweladwy
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenfô CF5 6AA.

COUNCIL ASKS FOR VIEWS ON CHILDCARE

THE Vale Council is inviting parents to complete a new survey on childcare in the area, with a chance to win £50 by doing so.

The early years development and childcare partnership (EYDCP) would like to hear views of parents with children aged 1-18.

The department is trying to find out whether there is enough childcare in the Vale to meet the needs of working parents – particularly those on low incomes, those with disabled children or those who wish their child to attend Welsh-medium provision.

If you are a parent and do not use childcare, you can still complete the survey, as the team would like to know why people choose not to use childcare.

The survey is available to complete online at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/fis or by contacting Debbie Maule, children's partnership coordinator, on 01446 709569. The closing date is August 27.

UFO is a case for Sherlock!

ON Sunday evening, as many people were settling down to watch the new series of *Sherlock Holmes* on BBC1, an unidentified flying object was seen in the Vale and Bridgend areas.

Three people contacted The GEM, one in Cowbridge, one in Brackla, Bridgend, and one in North Cornelly, all describing it as orange-red, and moving silently in a westerly direction.

It appeared to be low in the sky and the witnesses insisted that it could not have been an aircraft.

Did other readers see the mystery object? Perhaps you captured it with your camera or mobile phone?

If you did, please send any picture or description of what you saw to ggem@internet-today.co.uk

WE WELCOME YOUR NEWS
Email us at ggem@internet-today.co.uk, or contact Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL

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£97,500

Mallory Close, St Athan
Mid Link House, 4 Bedrooms, Kitchen and Dining Room, First Floor Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazed, Enc Rear Garden, 1 Parking Space.
Call Simon 01446 791963

£99,950

Elm, Woodside Hamlet, Llantwit Major
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£99,950

Sycamore Avenue, St Athan
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£135,000

Llanmaes Road, Llantwit Major
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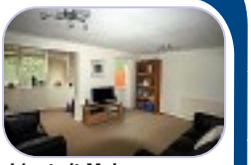

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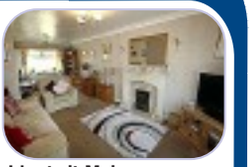

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CHAMPAGNE CAN BE POPPED AS...

BOWLERS ARE THE CHAMPIONS AFTER CRUSHING VICTORY

LLANTWIT Major Bowling Club are champions after their final home league game against Rumney saw them collect maximum points for the third time this season in a 100–51 shot win.

Llantwit play their final league next Saturday at Beddau, who are presently in second place in the league, but are too far behind to catch Llantwit.

Alan Gibbard's rink, like all of Llantwit's rinks, were two shots down after the first end then hit their stride, taking six shots from their opponents on one end, with the front men John Crane and Tom Ingroville outbowling their opposite numbers to win by 22 shots.

Charles Hiscock's rink all played their part in restricting Rumney to only nine shots in a 13-shot win, while Graham Jones' rink looked in control in the early stages, only for Rumney to come back at them to come within one shot before Llantwit pulled away on the final few ends to win by nine.

Neville Young's rink were in real trouble from the start.

Despite winning more ends than Rumney, they suffered a loss of six shots on one end, and were trailing at the threequarter stage by nine.

Llantwit's front men then took control, and with the skip going on to longer jacks, gradually reduced the deficit to win by five shots.

Rink scores: Alan Gibbard 32–10, Charles Hiscock 22–9, Graham Jones 23–14, Neville Young 23–18.

JY

Table tennis

THE Vale of Glamorgan Table Tennis Academy has moved to Cwm Talwg Community Centre and welcomes players of all standard and age.

The league programme begins in October and now is the time to form teams for any players who are interested.

The centre opens at 6.30pm on Wednesdays and further information is available from George Evans on 01446 711297.

The 'A' team just miss out

LLANTWIT Major Bowls Club 'A' team played their last league game of the season at Rumney on Saturday.

Weakened by late calls from the first team, they gained four points out of 14 when an additional four shots on one rink would have turned it into a 12-point win!

Ken Williams, pressed into playing as skip, had the hardest task and his rink struggled against long jacks throughout, losing 8–35.

Mike Williams made a welcome return to the 'A' team and his rink stormed away to a 19 point lead, and they then kept going to win 37–5.

Richie Gray's rink also had a good afternoon getting an early lead which they never looked like losing; score 21–15.

Eric Sparks' rink reacted unfavourably to the mid-game break, only winning one of the next 10 ends.

As the last rink to finish, they knew exactly what they had to do to get the desired result – score eight shots on the last three ends – but they only managed five for a final score of 19–22. The team finished in mid-table.

ES

RIGHT: Action from the Surf Lifesaving Welsh Masters championships, where Rhoose emerged victorious to retain the title.

Lifeguards masters team retains championships

THE Surf Lifesaving Welsh Masters championships took place on Saturday, July 31, 2010 at Whitesands, St Davids.

Eight masters teams entered the competition, but Rhoose Lifeguards retained the Welsh championship title for the second year running, beating Penybont into second place and Mumbles into third.

The team of 14 members performed extremely well, especially newly qualified members Babs Richards, Carol Miller, Sarah Bryant and Stuart Wong, despite the very choppy conditions.

Medal winners were: **Dave Cooper** (50+): Silver – Swim, Gold – Board, Gold – Ski, Gold – Ocean Man, Gold – 98+ Double Ski, Silver – 117+ Board Relay, Bronze – 117+ Taplin Relay .

Steve Edgerton (50+): Bronze – Board, Bronze – Beach Flags, Gold – 98+ Double Ski, Silver – 117+ Board Relay, Bronze – 117+ Taplin Relay, Silver – 1K Run.

Karen O'Donahue-Harris (40+): Gold – Swim, Gold – Board, Gold – Ski, Gold – Diamond Lady, Gold – Beach Sprints, Gold – Beach Sprint Relay, Gold – Beach Flags, Gold – 98+ Double Ski, Gold – 117+ Board Relay, Gold – 117+ Ski Relay, Gold – 117+ Taplin Relay, Silver – 1K Run.

Janine Cordy (40+): Silver – Board, Silver – Ski, Silver – Beach Sprint Relay, Bronze – Beach Flags, Gold – 117+ Board Relay, Gold – 117+ Ski Relay, Gold – 87+ Taplin Relay.

Carol Miller (40+): Silver – Beach Sprints, Silver – Beach Sprint Relay, Silver – Beach Flags, Gold – 87+ Board Relay, Gold – 1K Run.

Babs Richards (40+): Silver – Beach Sprint Relay, Gold – 87+ Board Relay, Gold – 87+ Taplin Relay.

Chris Braggins (40+) : Bronze – Beach Sprints. Paul Gardner (40+) : Bronze – 78+ Double Ski. **Simon Parker** (40+): Bronze – 78+ Double Ski, Silver – 117+ Board Relay, Bronze – 117+ Taplin Relay. **Alan Wadey** (40+) : Gold – 1K Run.

Liz Wong (30+): Bronze – Swim, Bronze – Board, Silver – Ski, Silver – Diamond Lady, Gold – Beach Sprint Relay, Gold – 98+ Double Ski, Gold – 117+ Board Relay, Gold - 117+ Ski Relay, Gold – 117+ Taplin Relay.

Sarah Bryant (30+): Bronze – Ski, Bronze – Beach Sprints, Gold – Beach Sprint Relay, Bronze – Beach Flags, Gold – 87+ Board Relay, Gold – 117+ Taplin Relay.

Miff Connelly (30+): Gold – 87+ Taplin Relay.

A magnificent haul of 62 medals in all.

Overall points were: 1st, Rhoose 1,352.5; 2nd, Penybont 1,165.5; 3rd, Mumbles 580; 4th, Sker and Pink Bay 552; 5th, Langland Bay 547; 6th, Porthmawr 320; 7th, North Worcester 144; 8th, Aberdeen 36.

Congratulations to all those that took part, thanks to family members and friends that came along to support the club, and a big thank you to the crews of the three IRBs.

SE

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BOVERTON - £229,500

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LLANTWIT MAJOR - £117,500

Exceptionally well maintained three bedroom family house with conservatory to the rear comprising Hallway, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Dining Room, Cloakroom, Modern Bathroom. Gas fired central heating. UPVC double glazed windows and doors. Gardens to front and rear designed for low maintenance. Freehold Ref 547D

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £220,000

Stone built terraced cottage built circa 1800 situated in the western end of the town comprising Porch, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen/Dining area, Two bedrooms, Bathroom. Double glazed windows. Gas central heating. Exposed beamed ceilings. Courtyard to the front and long extended garden to the rear with stone outbuilding. Freehold Ref 511D

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £125,000

Well maintained and presented three bedroom semi-detached house comprising Hallway, Cloakroom/Utility, Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Luxury Bathroom. UPVC double glazed windows. Gas central heating. Garden to front and good size rear garden with outbuildings. Viewing recommended. Ref 541D

ST ATHAN VILLAGE - £149,500

Established three bedroom semi-detached house comprising hallway, Cloakroom, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast room, Ground floor shower room, Family Bathroom. UPVC double glazed windows. Gas fired central heating. Driveway and garden to front and large rear garden. Freehold Ref 459D

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £169,950

Modern three bedroom end of link house situated in a cul-de-sac comprising Hallway, Lounge, Dining Area with patio doors to rear, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom/WC. Gas central heating. UPVC double glazed windows. Driveway and garden to the front and enclosed garden to the rear which overlooks playing fields. Freehold Ref 520D

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £274,950

Modern four bedroom detached house with conservatory and double garage comprising Hallway, Cloakroom, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility Room, En-suite shower room and Family Bathroom. UPVC double glazed windows. Gas central heating. Driveway and open plan garden to front and good size rear garden. Freehold. Ref 521D

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £187,500

Modern well presented three bedroom semi-detached house and garage comprising Hallway, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Dining Room with patio doors to rear, New modern Bathroom. Double glazed windows and doors. Gas central heating. Driveway and garden to front and good size rear garden. Freehold Ref 502D No Chain

LLANMAES - £395,000

Well presented circa 1800 detached stone built cottage with stone outbuilding and double garage. Spacious accommodation comprising Hallway, Cloakroom, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Rear Porch, Dining Room with Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom. Gas central heating. Double glazed windows. Original features. Good size gardens with rural outlook. Freehold Ref 525D

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Headteacher:
Mr D R Swallow OBE BSc (Hons) A.R.C.S.

Required for September 2010:

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£14891 - £15895 (pro rata)

37 hours per week; 39 weeks of the year.

The Governors are seeking to appoint a Learning Support Assistant to work within the Learning Support Department. You will be required to support individual pupils with their learning and work within a team of support staff.

Application forms and further details are available from the Headteacher at the above address to whom completed forms and letter of application should be sent to arrive by Monday, 23rd August 2010.

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Excellent opportunity for an experienced appointment maker to book quality leads for field sales in winter sports school travel sector.

You will be tenacious, with an outgoing friendly personality and be able to demonstrate the ability to close appointment opportunities.

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PART TIME EXPERIENCED
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required to work 3 days - to include one late night.
Please contact Wyndham House Dental Practice on 01446 795240.

Thank You

Thank You

VAL GATT would like to thank Julia and Ray for the fantastic surprise party on her 70th Birthday. I would also like to thank all my family and friends for the beautiful cards, flowers and presents received, and the Golden Girls for the limousine. I had an amazing day. Thank you so much. Love you all XXX

Birth Notices

Lynsey *and* **Matthew Bailey**
are thrilled to announce the safe arrival of a baby girl named

Erin Siân

weighing in at 7lb 1oz on 8 August 2010

Congratulations and love from all the grandparents: Simon & Debbie Porter; Carol & Ivor Bailey and family; and the man from uncle Leigh. *xxx*

Property

FOR SALE
3.64 acres of land near Sigingstone
Offers around £41k
Please call for details
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Small Starter Units For Rent
Barry area.
Three available.
Tel: 01446 721168 or 07813 134123
Reasonable rates

Family Notices

AINSWORTH
Brian

After a long illness, bravely fought, on Tuesday 3rd August 2010, Brian, aged 76, beloved husband of Doreen, devoted father of Diane and Gillian, loving grandfather, great-grandfather and brother.

Service to be held in St.Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major at 12.00 noon on Friday 13 August 2010, thereafter to Coychurch Crematorium.

Family flowers only please and donations to Cancer Research UK Cymru.

MORGAN
Susan Margaret Lucy
(neé Hopkin) - August 8th, 2009

A year has passed since we lost our Susie,
You're only a blink and a whisper away.
Cherished in our thoughts every day.
"Words are few, thoughts are deep,
Memories of you we will always keep,
For those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us every day."
From your loving husband John, Sally-Ann, John, Dale, Heather and grandchildren. *x x x*

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Birthdays

THOMAS
Happy 18th Birthday Blaine! (Blanche)
14 AUGUST 2010
We hope you have a great day and wish you all the best for your future. We love you.
Mum, Dad, Glyndwr & Liam.
x x x

MARTIN McDERMOTT
Happy 60th Birthday
12th August 2010

Congratulations and best wishes.
Love from
Sue and all the family
x x x x

Public Notices

VALE OF GLAMORGAN BRO MORGANNWG

VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
LEGAL, PUBLIC PROTECTION & HOUSING SERVICES
MARRIAGE ACT 1994 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

Take notice that the above department has received the following application under the above Act from St Mary's Golf Club Ltd for St. Mary's Hotel, St. Mary's Hill, Pencoed, Vale of Glamorgan, CF35 5EA to be a premises approved as a venue for Marriage and Civil Partnership Ceremonies.

This application and associated plans are available for public inspection between 9.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m., Monday to Friday at the Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU.

Any person wishing to object to the grant of this approval should write to the above address giving reasons for their objection within 21 days of the date of publication of this notice.

Peter H Evans
Director of Legal,
Public Protection & Housing Services

CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG
GWASANAETHAU CYFREITHIOL, AMDDIFFYN Y CYHOEDD A THAI
DEDDF PRIODAS 1994 A DEDDF PRIODAS SIFIL 2004

Noder fod yr adran uchod wedi derbyn y cais canlynol o dan y Ddeddf uchod gan St Mary's Golf Club Cyf ar gyfer Gwesty Santes Fair, St Mary's Hill, Pencoed, Bro Morgannwg, CF35 5EA i fod yn safle a gymeradwyir fel lleoliad ar gyfer Seremonïau Priodas a Phartneriaeth Sifil.

Mae'r cais hwn a chynlluniau cysylltiedig ar gael i'r cyhoedd eu harchwilio rhwng 9.00am – 4.00pm, dydd Llun i ddydd Gwener yn y Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Heol Holton, y Barri CF63 4RU.

Dylai unrhyw un sydd am wrthwynebu'r cais hwn ysgrifennu i'r cyfeiriad uchod yn rhoi rheesymau am y gwrthwynebiad o fewn 21 diwrnod i ddyddiad cyhoeddi'r hysbysiad hwn.

Peter H Evans
Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, Amddiffyn y Cyhoedd a Thai

VALE OF GLAMORGAN BRO MORGANNWG

VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
SCHEDULE 4 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT (Miscellaneous Provisions) ACT 1982

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Paragraph 2 of Schedule 4 to the above Act that the Vale of Glamorgan Council intend, by resolution, to designate all streets in their district as consent streets, for the purposes of street trading as defined by that Act, including all forecourts, roads, footways, or other areas adjacent to all streets in the resolution for a distance of 15 metres. There will be no licence streets.

Any comments in respect of this proposal should be forwarded in writing to the Licensing Section, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU by the 30th September 2010.

CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG
ATODLAEN 4 - DEDDF LLYWODRAETH LEOL (Darpariaethau Amrywiol) 1982

Rhoddir nybudd yn unol â Paragraff 2 o Atodlen 4 i Ddeddf uchod bod Cyngor Bro Morgannwg yn bwriadu, drwy benderfyniad, i ddynodi holl strydoedd yn eu hardal fel strydoedd caniatâd, at ddibenion masnachu ar y stryd fel yr diffinnir gan y Ddeddf honno. Gan gynnwys yr holl blaengyrtiau, ffyrdd, llwybrau troed neu ardaloedd eraill cyfagos i holl strydoedd yn y penderfyniad am beller o 15 metr. Ni fydd unrhyw drwydded strydoedd.

Dylai unrhyw sylwadau mewn perthynas â'r cynnig cael eu hanfon yn ysgrifenedig i Adran Trwyddedu, Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Heol Holton, Y Barry, CF63 4RU erbyn 30 Medi 2010.

Articles For Sale

ADVERTISE HERE for up to 4 weeks for 50p a word plus VAT. To take advantage of this offer simply either send in your description along with a cheque for the appropriate amount made payable to "The Glamorgan Gem" at The Gem, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or telephone us with your wording by 12 noon Tuesday. All major credit cards accepted. Tel 01446 774484. Advert must contain a residential land line telephone number. You may alter your advert as items are sold. **Sorry no refunds are given.**

13ft TRAMPOLIN - £20. Tel: 01446 760379. **(33)**

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WHEELCHAIR, push-type, small wheels, used three times - £80 ono. Tel: 01446 408198. **(33)**

TELEVISION STAND, new, with two doors with two shelves - £40. Tel: 01446 796715. **(33)**

BOYS BICYCLE suit 5 to 8 year old, good condition, cost £99, 6 months ago, bargain - £20. Tel: 01446 774557. **(33)**

TWO SEATER and 3 seater black leather settees and large puffee - £200. Super king size bed and headboard - £50. Two navy chesterfield settees - £200, navy armchair - £45. Pine chest of drawers - £50. Tel: 01446 412419. **(33)**

DREAMWORKS electric adjustable 3ft bed and headboard, bought from Place For Homes, as good as new - £500. Tel: 01446 775270. **(32)**

HONDA HRA536 petrol mower - £275. Tel: 01656 649550. **(32)**

EXTENDING wooden dining table and 4 matching chairs - £120. Tel: 01656 667931. **(32)**

GAS FIRE Canon Coalridge (brown), excellent condition - £80. Tel: 01446 403114. **(32)**

BARGAIN FURNITURE. Bedroom, dining and living room furniture in very good condition. To be cleared from sold property in Penarth. Nothing older than 11 years. Most items £10-£20. Collect only. Tel: 01732 750118 for full details.

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2005 Fiat Punto 1.2
New MoT, Tax to January 2011, service history, 38,000 miles.
£2,600 ono
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07774 857428 31

2005 VW Polo 1.4 Twist 5-dr
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07922 001972 31

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3-dr hatchback, a/c, cd, alloy wheels, 7 months MOT, 9 months Tax, Red, 116,000 miles, ideal first car.
Good condition, good engine.
Offers around **£1,095**
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07847 657316 31

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Red, 2003, 49k, Mot'd July 2011, Taxed Sept 31 2010, 2 Lady Owners, Top Spec
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07910 417471
07910 554483

01 Ford Ka
Metallic blue, K40, Mot'd till June 2011, taxed till Dec 2010. Excellent condition, new brakes.
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07910 554483 30

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LIMITED EDITION BLUE MODEL
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Articles For Sale

ITALIAN leather, new, brown, 3 seater settee, 2 seater settee and chair - £400. Tel: 01446 774364. **(31)**

ELECTRIC integral oven and grill - £100 ono. Singer sewing machine - £50 ono. Stove, view - offers invited. Tel: 01446 775746. **(31)**

TOWER SCAFFOLDING, new, 6ft x 4ft, galvanized, 20ft working height, ideal builders and DIY - £190, free delivery. Tel: 07836 270723. **(31)**

PETROL MOWER still boxed - £250. Bath master Sir Noras (new) - £150. Stairlift (nearly new) - £500.
2 seater leather settee (perfect condition) - £200. Wheelchair, folding (new) - £150. Tall freezer (almost new) - £100. Tel: 01656 890489. **(31)**

MINATURE pedestal table, wheeled sewing box - £15. Tel: 01446 740817 **(31)**

TRIPLE WARDROBE £95. Glass coffee table £25. Beko fridge/freezer with drinks dispenser, one year old £200. Wall unit £20. Tel: 01446 701645. **(30)**

SONY 32" COLOUR TV FST, 7 speaker surround sound £75. Tel: 01446 773010. **(30)**

THREE PIECE SUITE Two months old, soft cover £500 ono. Tel: 01446 406735. **(30)**

CHESTERFIELD Leather 3 seater settee and chair in antique red. Some slight damage on arm of settee. £275 buyer collects. Tel: 01446 773607. **(30)**

ELECTRIC BOOTY Scooter, brand new £525. Tel: 01446 711680. **(30)**

CARAVAN AWNING 12ft tourer £95. Tel: 02920 515234. **(30)**

CHILDREN'S WARDROBE with 3 sliding drawers inside and drawer at the bottom. £100 ono. Tel: 01446 771330. **(30)**

CARAVANS

Panoramic Sea Front Position in small Vale Park
Luxury Willerby caravan 6-berth, one double en-suite, 37x12', verandah. High quality furniture & fittings, DG, CH, Tel point. 10/12 mths occupancy, 5 yrs old, No dogs.
£23,500 ono
07507 772888 30

NSPCC's Dyffryn garden party remembers one of charity's great supporters

Pictures by **IAN DIXON**

ABOVE and LEFT: The garden party raised £1,200.

A VERY successful garden party was organised by the Barry central branch committee of the NSPCC at Dyffryn Gardens.

It was attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Barry, Karl Kuhnell and Mrs Meryl Kuhnell, and the Mayor and Mayoress of the Vale of Glamorgan, Colin and Ruby Osbourne.

Also present were Mrs Fiona Curteis, the chairman of Cardiff and District branch, and Mrs Jo Leonard, the area fundraising co-ordinator.

Fiona Curteis spoke of the sad loss of Gareth Howe and of the support he gave to his wife, Carys, over the 50 years since she formed the Barry committee of NSPCC.

His presence is very much missed. Gareth took great interest in the work undertaken by NSPCC.

He organised several musical evenings at his home over the years, raising a great amount of money.

Fiona then presented Carys with a posthumous award for Gareth, in the form of a framed certificate, in recognition of his support over many years.

The amount raised was £1,200.34 and the committee wishes to thank everyone who attended the garden party.

VH

'Park is now a vibrant area'

WE, as the Barry Town councillors for the Cadoc and Court wards, would like to congratulate John Greatrex and his team, on arranging a very successful summer programme for the people of Barry, especially those in our wards that are closest to the park.

Victoria Park is now a vibrant area, with the 'Room in the Park' being well utilised, and fun days and the children's games being very much part of the community spirit. It makes it a real pleasure to go to the park.

Many visitors coming back to Barry are returning to the park from years ago, to reminisce of days gone by.

Keep up the good work, boys, and we will support your events.

Couns Brooks, Cash, Davey, J Evans, Payne and Stenstrom (Members' Room, Barry Town Council)

NEWS FROM RHOOSE WI

THE Rhoose WI met on August 5 at The Community Hall, in Stewart Road.

The evening began with a minute's silence as a mark of respect for a member, Veronica Surman, who recently passed away. Veronica will be sadly missed**.**

The secretary reported that the coffee morning held at the home of Avril Phillips had been a great success; the weather had been marvellous and a very substantial sum had been raised, half of which had been donated to Ty Hafan.

In July, the walkers of The Lunch Club had enjoyed a pleasant walk around the airport and through Nurston to The Blue Anchor, where they met other members for lunch.

After these reports, the members settled down to the main part of the evening devoted to social events.

A short entertainment was performed by the newly formed entertainments group and their sketch 'The WI Year' was well received .

This was followed by a supper provided by caterers. Afterwards, the winner of the WI bursary was announced. It was won by Grace Watkins who will use the award to study photography. The raffle was won by Betty Howe.

Planned events for August and September are as follows: *Lunch at the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge, on August 26; a tour of Fonmon Castle, followed by afternoon tea on September 7; canal cruise at Gloucester on September 23.*

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 2, at 7.30pm at The Community Hall, Stewart Road, Rhoose.

Mrs Sarah Keep will give a talk and demonstration on 'Hat Making'.

New members and visitors will be made very welcome.

Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan Schools under-14 and under-16 Cup Final, Cardiff International Sports Stadium

JOY FOR THE VALE AT MEET

Report by PETER MORRIS
Pictures by IAN DIXON

THERE was joy for the Cowbridge under-14 boys (years 7 and 8) and the Llantwit under-16 girls (years 9 and 10) teams at the Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan Schools Cup final.

Since 1997, the association has held a Cup competition based on six preliminary round matches, with the winner of each section at each of the fixtures qualifying for the A Final and the second placed team taking part in the B Final. Both finals were held at Jenner Park, which, with a six-lane track, was an ideal venue to stage the three-hour event.

Much is at stake at the A final. The winning school in each of the four sections qualifies for the NASUWT Cymru Welsh Schools Final at Brecon in July, and the second-placed school is invited to the Plate final on the same day, also at Brecon.

Sadly, at the 2009 Cardiff & the Vale A Final, schools turned up at Jenner to find that, following work on the triple jump pit by the Vale Council, the field referee ruled that it was unsafe for use.

Given the qualifying element of the fixture for Brecon, there were a number of schools who did not want to risk staging such an important fixture at the Barry stadium again. As a result, the cup competition was altered with only four preliminary matches, with the plan that the top two teams would qualify for the A final with the third and fourth place teams taking part in the B final.

Two eight-school finals at Cardiff International Sports Stadium should have provided four extra teams with an opportunity to take part.

However, the best laid plans do not always work out. The ever-extending tentacles of the external examination system now have a hold on year-10 pupils, who are eligible to take modular GCSE examinations.

The outcome, discovered at a late date, was that there were key year-10 GCSE modules on two of the dates planned for the cup preliminaries. One fixture had to be started two hours later than planned and two others had to be postponed to the scheduled A Cup final date, the A Cup final was moved to the B Cup final date, and the B final scrapped – the first time that B final has not been held since it was started in 1997.

It also meant that only eight schools took part in the final instead of the usual 12!

There was only one major surprise in the preliminaries. At the Fitzalan qualifier, Whitchurch won the under-16 boys section with Stanwell just getting the better of the Cowbridge squad.

Llantwit and Bro Morgannwg both qualified all four teams for the final, with Cowbridge fielding three and Barry Comprehensive getting both boys' squads through.

Sadly, Stanwell did not understand that two teams qualified from each match and, as a result, did not compete in the final, which meant that year-9 pupils Tom Williams and Matteo Holmes missed the opportunity to make an impression against the best of year-10.

At the final, held on a sunny afternoon at Leckwith, the Cowbridge under-14 boys' team was headed by Aviva UK Sportshall under-13 standing long jump champion George Griffiths and Aviva Welsh Sportshall under-13 4 lap champion Tom Trotman.

With pupils restricted to a maximum of one track and one field event, plus a relay, the duo chalked up wins in the 100 metres, long jump plus a second place in the high jump for a total of 70 points – and helped gain another 18 points with a relay win.

Although success by two individuals is helpful, a much greater all-round team effort is needed to win the Cup and qualify for Brecon. Thankfully, Mr Glan Williams and his Cowbridge PE department colleagues are blessed with an outstanding group of pupils in years 7 and 8, and responded with a fine series of performances.

There were A competition wins from Brad Rosser (hurdles) and Joe Gaughan (300 and shot) and top three placings from most of the other A and B string athletes. They were chased hard by Cardiff High, but in the end Cowbridge triumphed with 301 points and the north Cardiff school had to settle for second on 270.5.

The under-16 girls' section was very much a battle between Llantwit and Whitchurch. Last year, the Vale school tied with Cardiff High in the under-14 section, qualifying for the NASUWT Cymru Cup final thanks to more individual wins.

This year's under-16 team included familiar names from that squad. On the track, there were the expected wins from Lucy Tarrant (800) and Megan Osborne (1,500), the ever-reliable Lucy Taylor produced the best leap in the long jump and gained valuable points with a B 100m victory, year-10 Emma Worrall won the high jump with Amie Parsons leading the hurdlers home and Chloe Phillips and Megan Davies finishing second and third respectively in the shot and discus.

At the end of a long afternoon, it was announced that, for a second consecutive year, Llantwit girls had been involved in a tie – with Whitchurch – and had qualified thanks to a greater number of individual winners but, on checking, the Vale school had won by the narrowest of margins, half a point.

With Llanishen winning the under-16 boys' section and Whitchurch taking the under-14 girls' title, only the Cowbridge and Llantwit squads qualified for the Brecon finals.

Other Vale pupils to catch the eye with victories included the Barry Comprehensive trio of Arran Reid (100), Matthew Collins (1,500) and Josh Albertides (high jump) at under-16, the Llantwit duo of Ben Owen (800) and Richard Dangerfield (javelin) in the under-14 events and, in the under-14 girls' section, Aviva Welsh Sportshall standing long jump champion Izzy Eddy-Williams (100) and her Cowbridge team-mate Annabel Curle (high jump) plus Danielle Dakin-Weston (Llantwit, javelin).

Results of Vale pupils:

Under-16 boys – Years 9 and 10 – Teams: 1 Llanishen 285; 4 Llantwit 227.5; 6 Bro Morgannwg 223; 7 Barry 221.
100 A: 1 Arran Reid (Barry) 11.5; 3 George Lee (Lwt) 11.9; 5 Harry Foster-Davies (Bro M)) 12.3; 100 B: 2 Cameron Richards (Lwt) 12.2; 5 Connor Doyle (Barry) 12.5; 6 Dafi Davies (Bro M)) 12.6.
200 A: 1 Wesley Burns (Bro M)) 24.1; 5 Michael West (Lwt) 25.7; 7 Tom Adams (Barry) 26.8; 200 B: 2 Rhys James (Barry) 25.6; 4 Jacob Briscombe (Bro M)) 26.7.
300 A: 5 Josh Drew (Lwt) 41.5; 6 Jack Pritchard (Bro M) 43.2; 7 Cory Hill (Barry) 46.1; 300 B: 2 Josh Sanderson (Lwt) 40.6; 5 Will Powell (Barry) 43.0; 6 Daniel Wells (Bro M) 43.8.
800 A: 3 Matthew Collins (Barry) 2:12.3; 5 Dafydd James-Isaac (Lwt) 2:21.4; 6 Morgan Preece (Bro M) 2:22.4; 800 B: 4 John Conkey (Lwt) 2:25.0; 5 Curtis Haye (Barry) 2:26.3; 6 George Connolly (Bro M) 2:28.4.
1,500 A: 1 Matthew Edwards (Barry) 4:20.2; 2 Rory Heslop (Bro M) 4:37.5; 7 Rory Ellis (Lwt) 4:58.5; 1500 B: 1 Callam Barrie (Barry) 4:32.8.
80H A: 2 Luke Dawes (Lwt) 12.8; 6 David Parkes (Bro M) 13.3; 7 Josh Albertides (Barry) 13.9; 80H B: 3 Ieuan Orton (Bro M) 13.4; 5 Jamie Robinson (Lwt) 14.1; 7 Kieron Sharratt (Barry) nt.
4 x 100: 1 Llantwit 47.1; 4 Barry 48.5; 6 Bro Morgannwg 49.0.
HJ A: 1= Josh Albertides (Barry) 1.60; 3= Ieuan Orton (Bro M) 1.60; 5 Connor Craythorne (Lwt) 1.50; HJ B: 2= Ed Howley (Lwt) 1.50; 4 Arran Reid (Barry) 1.50; 5= Daniel Wells (Bro M) 1.45.
LJ A: 2 Wesley Burns (Bro M) 5.41; 4 George Lee (Lwt) 5.26; 7 Cory Hill (Barry) 4.82; LJ B: 3 Jacob Briscombe (Bro M) 5.04; 5 Josh Drew (Lwt) 4.79; 6 Alex Lennon (Barry) 4.43.
TJ A: 4 Luke Dawes (Lwt) 11.12; 5 Harry Foster-Davies (Bro M) 11.08; 7 Matt Collins (Barry) 10.61; TJ B: 4 Callum Harding (Bro M) 10.49; 6 John Conkey (Lwt) 10.24; 7 Will Powell (Barry) 10.09.
SP A (4kg): 5 Ben Davies (Bro M) 10.59; 6 Lloyd Meyrick (Barry) 10.30; 7 Jack Smith (Lwt) 8.52; SP B (4kg): 5 Ben Thomas (Bro M) 9.83; 6 Jack Bloomfield (Barry) 9.27; 7 Elliot Parry (Lwt) 7.90.
DT A (1.25kg): 5 Kieron Carpenter (Bro M) 27.10; 6 Matthew Jones (Lwt) 25.36; 7 Lucas Davies (Barry) 22.66; DT B (1.25kg): 3 Jack Pritchard (Bro M) 25.37; 6 Jack Austin (Lwt) 22.72; 7 John Miles (Barry) 21.20.
JT A (600g): 2 David Evans (Lwt) 36.93; 4 Phillip Stanford (Bro M) 36.67; 7 Tom Adams (Barry) 28.92; JT B (600g): 2 Jamie Robinson (Lwt) 30.68; 4 Jacob Burgess (Barry) 28.75; Malachai Corrigan (Bro M) nt.

Under-14 Boys – Years 7 and 8 – Teams: 1 Cowbridge 301; 4 Barry 224; 7 Bro Morgannwg 196; 8 Llantwit 195.5.
100 A: 1 George Griffiths (Cow) 12.0; 5 Callum Mickelsen (Barry) 13.1; 6 James Walsh (Bro M) 13.5; 8 Alex Hill (Lwt) 13.9; 100 B: 1 Harry Dowell-Bennett (Cow) 12.5; 2 Luke Purnell (Barry) 13.2; 7 Rhydian Hopkins (Bro M) 14.9.
200 A: 2 Tom Trotman (Cow) 26.0; 3 Richard Dangerfield (Lwt) 27.8; 6 Connor Clark (Barry) 28.3; 8 Owen Young (Bro M) 28.8; 200 B: 2 Lloyd Hawkins (Barry) 27.8; 4 Oliver Evans (Cow) 28.2; 7 Rhys Bugler (Lwt) 30.1; 8 Rhys Hunter (Bro M) 30.2. 300 A: 1 Joe Gaughan (Cow) 41.9; 4 Rhys Forse (Barry) 45.4; 7 Curtis Jones (Bro M) 48.3; 8 Ben Brown (Lwt) 48.9; 300 B: 3 James Smart (Cow) 44.8; 5 Nico Wilson (Barry) 46.1; 6 Taylor Harris (Bro M) 46.5; 8 Connor Clarke (Lwt) 50.5.
800 A: 1 Ben Owen (Lwt) 2:23.4; 2 Joshua Thomas (Cow) 2:29.5; 6 Gethin Cooper (Bro M) 2:45.4; 8 Calvin McCann (Barry) 2:01.5; 800 B: 1 Kristian Jones (Cow) 2:34.7; 3 Arran Bright (Lwt) 2:43.0; 6 Iwan Mepham (Bro M) 2:48.0; 7 Daniel Brock (Barry) 3:03.5.
1,500 A: 2 Dafydd George (Bro M) 4:55.6; 3 Cameron Jones (Cow) 4:57.6; 5 Tom Rawlings (Lwt) 5:03.3; 7 Elliot Morris-Devred (Barry) 5:13.9; 1500 B: 2 Tom Owen (Cow) 5:17.5; 3 Gareth Hurman (Barry) 5:21.5; 5 Iwan Thomas (Bro M) 5:25.0; 8 Jake Mazzitelli (Lwt) 5:58.5
75H A: 1 Brad Rosser (Cow) 13.5; 4 Jake Sutch (Lwt) 14.8; 5 Callum Tumilty (Barry) 14.8; 7 Jack Burbidge (Bro M) 17.0; 75H B: 2 Tyler Rogers (Cow) 14.1; 4 Alan Evans (Bro M) 14.1; 5 Rhys Bennett (Lwt) 15.1; 8 Theo Richards (Barry) 16.5.
4 x 100: 1 Cowbridge 48.9; 5 Barry 53.9; 7 Llantwit 56.5; 8 Bro Morgannwg 56.5.
HJ A: 1 Tom Trotman (Cow) 1.58; 4 James Walsh (Bro M) 1.40; 6= Jake Sutch (Lwt) 1.30; 8 Elliot Morris-Devred (Barry) 1.25; HJ B: 1= Declan Thomas (Cow) 1.40; 3 Gethin Cooper (Bro M) 1.40; 6 Rhys Bugler (Lwt) 1.25; 8 Scott Townsend (Barry) 1.15.
LJ A: 1 George Griffiths (Cow) 5.42; 4 Lloyd Hawkins (Barry) 4.54; 7 Dafydd George (Bro M) 4.23; 8 Alex Hill (Lwt) 4.00; LJ B: 1 Joshua Thomas (Cow) 4.54; 2 Callum Mickelsen (Barry) 4.23; 5 Ben Murphy (Lwt) 3.97; 6 Owen Young (Bro M) 3.97.
TJ A: 2 Liam Martin (Cow) 9.45; 3 Luke Purnell (Barry) 9.27; 4 Alan Evans (Bro M) 9.08; 8 Connor Clarke (Lwt) 8.55; TJ B: 4 Gabe Shires (Cow) 8.72; 5 Curtis Jones (Bro M) 8.23; 6 Dan Reed (Lwt) 7.79; Callan Tumilty (Barry) nj.
SP A (3.25kg): 1 Joe Gaughan (Cow) 11.54; 2 Lucas Jones (Barry) 10.44; 5 Hugo Billington (Lwt) 9.34; 7 Richard Evans (Bro M) 8.85; SP B (3.25kg): 1 Rhys Force (Barry) 10.33; 3 Will Matthews (Cow) 8.67; 6 Finn Marcus (Bro M) 7.77; 8 Matthew Sanderson (Lwt) 6.29.
DT A (1kg): 2 Harry Bennett (Cow) 27.52; 5 Nico Wilson (Barry) 22.15; 6 Ben Brown (Lwt) 19.63; 7 Joseff Richards (Bro M) 17.59; DT B (1kg): 1 Greg Jerwood (Cow) 24.36; 4 Matthew Jones (Barry) 17.55; 6 Ben Owen (Lwt) 16.84; 7 Jacob Conway (Bro M) 16.74.
JT A (400g): 1 Richard Dangerfield (Lwt) 35.03; 3 Daniel Brock (Barry) 31.06; 5 Harry Stubbington (Cow) 27.36; 6 Iwan Mepham (Bro M) 27.29; JT B (400g): 3 Connor Adams (Barry) 25.58; 4 Joel Thomas (Bro M) 24.16; 6 Brad Rosser (Cow) 19.28; 7 Julian Boswell (Lwt) 17.95.

Under-16 Girls – Years 9 and 10 – Teams: 1 Llantwit 227; 5 Bro Morgannwg 193.5; 6 Cowbridge 191.5.
100 A: 2 Zoe Stevens (Bro M) 14.0; 3 Romy Killick (Cow) 14.1; 6 Landianna Darter (Lwt) 14.5; 100 B: 1 Lucy Taylor (Lwt) 14.1; 3 Lauren Duddridge (Bro M) 14.5; 5 Emily Mills (Cow) 14.5.
200 A: 2 Maisie Matthews (Bro M) 28.9; 5 Emma Worrall (Lwt) 30.2; 6 Sophie Lloyd (Cow) 30.5; 200 B: 5 Madison Declaire (Bro M) 30.0; 6 Megan Davies (Lwt) 30.9; 7 Meakah Powell (Cow) 32.0.
800 A: 1 Lucy Tarrant (Lwt) 2:33.5; 3 Rachel Bradshaw (Cow) 2:47.3; 6 Bethan Yapp (Bro M) 2:52.7; 800 B: 4 Ella Hughes (Lwt) 3:05.0; 5 Beatrice Hawker (Cow) 3:07.3; 7 Rochelle Davies (Bro M) 3:11.9.
1,500 A: 1 Lucy Tarrant (Lwt) 5:13.2; 4 Fiona Bray (Cow) 5:52.3; 6 Lisa James (Bro M) 6:11.9; 1500 B: 2 Katie Wynne (Cow) 5:58.4; 5 Bethany Cleave (Lwt) 6:21.4; 6 Chantelle Jones (Bro M) 6:28.4.
75H A: 1 Amie Parsons (Lwt) 12.9; 5 Bethany Hawkins (Bro M) 15.0; 6 Caitlin Allin (Cow) 15.1; 75H B: 2 Chloe Phillips (Lwt) 13.3; 4 Megan Thomas (Bro M) 14.3; 7 Becky Thomas (Cow) 15.0.
4 x 100: 3 Llantwit 56.0; 5 Bro Morgannwg 56.9; 8 Cowbridge 58.3.
HJ A: 1 Emma Worrall (Lwt) 1.45; 3= Rebecca Thomas (Cow) 1.40; 5= Maisie Matthews (Bro M) 1.40; HJ B: 1 Molly Frost (Cow) 1.40; 4 Cerren Richards (Bro M) 1.30; 5 Amie Parsons (Lwt) 1.25.
LJ A: 1 Lucy Taylor (Lwt) 4.81; 2 Romy Killick (Cow) 4.37; 6 Madison Declaire (Bro M) 3.97; LJ B: 1 Caitlin Allin (Cow) 4.14; 2 Olivia Holt (Lwt) 3.92; 3 Zoe Stevens (Bro M) 3.80.
SP A (3.25kg): 2 Chloe Phillips (Lwt) 7.92; 3 Megan Thomas (Bro M) 7.79; 6 Katie Wynne (Cow) 6.72; SP B (3.25kg): 1 Ellen Pitt (Lwt) 6.97; 5 Imogen Stratton-Rees (Bro M) 5.82; 8 Rachel Jones (Cow) 4.66.
DT A (1kg): 3 Megan Davies (Lwt) 19.29; 4 Leanne Kelland (Bro M) 19.22; 7 Ellie Williams (Cow) 16.43; DT B (1kg): 2 Danielle Boucher (Bro M) 16.66; 4 Liz Davies (Lwt) 16.11; 8 Hannah Jones (Cow) 14.56.
JT A (600g): 3 Coryn Sexton (Cow) 17.83; 6 Aysha Clarke (Bro M) 15.12; 7 Ella Hughes (Lwt) 12.76; JT B (600g): 3 Lucy Johnson (Cow) 11.81; 7 Aimee Price (Lwt) 10.00; 8 Katy Gillies B of Llandaff 1.75.

Under-14 Girls – Years 7 and 8 – Teams: 1 Whitchurch 224.5; 4 Cowbridge 196; 6 Llantwit 188; 7 Bro Morgannwg 177.5.
100 A: 1 Izzy Eddy-Williams (Cow) 13.5; 2 Chelsea Siirak (Bro M) 13.6; 7 Karisha Dee (Lwt) 14.8; 100 B: 4 Molly Brown (Lwt) 14.5; 5 Joanna Wilkins (Cow) 14.7; 6 Kerys Jenkins (Bro M) 14.8.
200 A: 5 Millie Jones (Bro M) 30.2; 6 Ellie Bishop (Cow) 30.9; 8 Ellie Atkinson (Lwt) 31.4; 200 B: 5 Tamara Pitt (Lwt) 31.0; 7 Brooke Langton (Cow) 31.7; 8 Llinos Evans (Bro M) 34.0.
800 A: 3 Annabel Curle (Cow) 2:43.1; 6 Chloe Hughes (Lwt) 2:57.2; 7 Elin Pendlington-Bowen (Bro M) 3:04.6; 800 B: 3 Alice Tudor (Cow) 2:57.9; 4 Elinor Hicks (Lwt) 2:58.3; 8 Ariana Adams (Bro M) 3:26.3.
1,500 A: 2 Erin Hayes (Lwt) 5:21.3; 7 Nadine James (Cow) 5:46.5; 8 Ffion Davies (Bro M) 5:49.5; 1500 B: 3 Rebecca Thomas (Cow) 5:52.2; 6 Kierney O'Dare (Lwt) 5:56.8.
75H A: 2 Jessica Morgan (Bro M) 12.7; 3 Phoebe Nixon (Lwt) 13.1; 6 Sarah Lewis (Cow) 13.6; 75H B: 2 Eve McGowan (Cow) 14.1; 3 Jennifer Hampton (Bro M) 14.3; 7 Aimee Miller (Lwt) 15.7
4 x 100: 1 Cowbridge 56.0; 7 Llantwit 59.3; 8 Bro Morgannwg 62.3
HJ A: 1 Annabel Curle (Cow) 1.45; 5= Jennifer Hampton (Bro M) 1.25; 7 Emily Ward (Lwt) 1.25; HJ B: 2 Lili Evans (Cow) 1.25; 3 Tamara Pitt (Lwt) 1.25; 4 Jessica Morgan (Bro M) 1.20
LJ A: 2 Chelsea Siirak (Bro M) 4.09; 4 Joanna Wilkins (Cow) 4.01; 5 Molly Brown (Lwt) 3.92; LJ B: 2 Sarah Lewis (Cow) 3.71; 6 Phoebe Nixon (Lwt) 3.60; 7 Ffion Burn (Bro M) 3.34
SP A (2.72kg): 2 Rebecca Miles (Lwt) 7.45; 6 Lydia Hitchins (Cow) 6.81; 8 Eva Alia (Bro M) 5.65; SP B (2.72kg): 3 Charlotte Booth (Lwt) 6.95; 6 Hannah Woodward (Cow) 6.34; Megan Hill (Bro M) np.
DT A (0.75kg): 2 Chelsey Thomas (Bro M) 18.65; 7 Ellie Atkinson (Lwt) 15.38; 8 Immy Miller (Cow) 14.91; DT B (0.75kg): 1 Caitlin Young (Bro M) 17.72; 4 Erin Hayes (Lwt) 15.22; 6 Hannah Portch (Cow) 14.76.
JT A (400g): 1 Danielle Dakin-Weston (Lwt) 25.75; 5 Kimberley Williams (Bro M) 17.61; 8 Izzy Eddy-Williams (Cow) 9.29; JT B (400g): 2 Abby Evans (Bro M) 16.82; 4 Shanelle Evans (Lwt) 14.82; 8 Brooke Langton (Cow) 6.16.
6.81; 8 Eva Alia (Bro M) 5.65; SP B (2.72kg): 3 Charlotte Booth (Lwt) 6.95; 6 Hannah Woodward (Cow) 6.34; Megan Hill (Bro M) np.
DT A (0.75kg): 2 Chelsey Thomas (Bro M) 18.65; 7 Ellie Atkinson (Lwt) 15.38; 8 Immy Miller (Cow) 14.91; DT B (0.75kg): 1 Caitlin Young (Bro M) 17.72; 4 Erin Hayes (Lwt) 15.22; 6 Hannah Portch (Cow) 14.76.
JT A (400g): 1 Danielle Dakin-Weston (Lwt) 25.75; 5 Kimberley Williams (Bro M) 17.61; 8 Izzy Eddy-Williams (Cow) 9.29; JT B (400g): 2 Abby Evans (Bro M) 16.82; 4 Shanelle Evans (Lwt) 14.82; 8 Brooke Langton (Cow) 6.16.

Harry Dowell-Bennett (Cowbridge) winner of the under-14 B 100 metres.

Versatile Joe Gaughan (Cowbridge) won the A 300 and shot, and helped the relay squad to victory.

Year-10 Matthew Edwards (Barry Comprehensive) won the under-16 1,500 metres in a very encouraging time.

Izzy Eddy-Williams (Cowbridge) winner of the under-14 girls A 100 metres.

BARRY TOWN AIM FOR PREMIER PROMOTION –

but who can scupper their dreams?

BARRY Town are applying again for promotion to the Welsh Premier League which offers great rewards both financially and in football terms, with four of the Premier League's teams playing in European football – so what are their chances?

Barry used to dominate the Welsh Premier before falling into administration in 2003.

Cardiff businessman, Stuart Lovering, stepped in after the fans were unable to raise the £100,000 needed.

Barry Town have won the Premier title 13 times, seven Welsh Cups and more than 20 other cups and trophies. The club beat European giants Porto 3–1 in the Champions League just a few years ago, attracting crowds of more than 6,000 for matches against Manchester United, Dynamo Kiev, Boavista, Skonto Riga, Porto and Aberdeen.

Barry has also been boosted by a new sponsor for the club in Bute Property Services.

With only one of the top two teams being promoted at the end of the season, who are the Town's main rivals who could block their Premier dreams?

The first team to watch out for are old derby rivals, Bridgend Town, who now play at the impressive Brewery Field.

Ominously, Bridgend have signed five players from last season's champions Goytre United, as well as the two most prolific goal scorers in the division, Robbie Walters and Richard Ryan. Bridgend are tipped by many as favourites to win the title and are Barry Town's main threat.

Goytre United are likely to be a shadow of the side they were last year in winning the title, mainly due to the loss of players to Bridgend. They have signed brothers Nicky and Scott Jones from Barry Town but are expected to finish closer to mid-table this year.

Last year's runners-up, Cambrian and Clydach, have benefited hugely from financial support in this deprived Valleys community.

Coached by the area's respected football development officer, Cambrian are the ones to watch out for.

Afan Lido, who finished third last year, will also apply to return to the Premier League.

Having lost striker Robbie Walters to Bridgend, they may lack the firepower to take them to the top this season, however, this Port Talbot club always attracts good players and are well organised.

Last year, Caldicot and Taffs Well both unexpectedly finished above Barry Town, and every season, there are one or two teams who have a surprisingly good season – newly promoted Penrhiwceiber might be the team this year.

As for Barry, the Dragons finished third two seasons ago, and ended up seventh last year because of an horrendous injury list.

Barry had the second best defence last season and the third worst goal scoring record, so if the Town can maintain their solid defence, steer clear of too many injuries and focus on their goal scoring, the Dragons have a real chance of promotion.

Bearing in mind their pre-season form so far of hitting thirteen goals in four games from ten players, there must be real hope among supporters.

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Players wanted

CADOXTON Imps are looking for new players for the coming football season.

The team will be playing in Division 1 of the VOGL, and especially welcome any youngsters looking to move into senior football from last year's under-16 division.

Anyone interested can contact Steve Tinsley on 745641 or Gary Spierling on 07717 357982.

British beach volleyball is set for Barry

THIS year's British beach volleyball circuit season ends at Barry Island with a three-day international event from August 28 to 30.

Although this is not the first time Barry beach has seen beach volleyball on its golden sands, this year is particularly special with toned athletes from Brazil, Germany, Finland and Portugal prowling the courts to challenge the UK's fittest and finest.

In all, over three days, 60 teams will strut their stuff on the sand in the running for the beach 6's, 4's, beach 2's and elite 2's titles.

The action will take place over 14 courts, including a professional centre court where beach volleyball will be showcased, alongside player, sponsor and VIP marquees.

Amid all of the colour, spectacle and sporting action, Barry Island beach will also host its first ever wedding. Carl Harwood, Barry Island Beach Volleyball Club's dedicated founder, will wed his fiancee following the completion of the elite play-offs, right in the centre of the action on centre court.

The fun begins on Saturday, August 28 with a charity competition inviting competitors from sponsors, schools, local and corporate businesses to enter teams of six to compete for prizes, and learn the ins and outs of beach volleyball from the pros.

All proceeds will go to Ty Hafan.

For more information, call 07871 038169 or email chloe@targetscout.co.uk.

CHLOE WALKINGSHAW

Town's new sponsor

BARRY Town Football Club has announced that Bute Property Services will be the sponsor for the 2010-11 season.

Bute Property Services are a property maintenance and service company based in Cardiff, and intend to sponsor some games and give free tickets to schools in and around the Vale to provide a sporting day out for the family.

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04 **04 PORSCHE 911 Carrera Cabriolet.** In lapis blue with full metropole leather, heated electric sports seats, sat nav, phone prep, upgraded wheels, sports exhaust, climate control, cruise control, BOSE stereo upgrade, full service history, only 42,771 miles **£25,995**

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03 **03 BMW 3 Series 2.0 318Ci SE Convertible.** In light yellow metallic, with full black leather interior, electric heated seats with memory, cruise control, climate control, rear parking sensors, 18" Msport alloy wheels, only 55,615 miles **£11,995**

02 **51 MERCEDES BENZ C-Class 2.0 C180 Sport Coupe** in brilliant silver met with Ascot interior, dual zone climate control, cruise control, auto lights, cd, alloy wheels, only 70,647 miles **£6,995**

SPORTS

09 **09 MINI 1.6 (120bhp) Cooper (Pepper) Graphite** In graphite grey with black interior, storage compartment package, 2 spoke leather steering wheel, air con, CD, only 6,570 miles..... **£14,495**

09 **58 VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 SRi Sporthatch.** In technical grey met with silver alpha interior, air con, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, rear spoiler, trip computer, only 26,770 miles..... **£9,995**

07 **57 HYUNDAI Coupe 2.0 SIII** in carbon grey with full red leather interior, climate control, sunroof, cruise control, alloy wheels, only 23,600 miles..... **£9,995**

07 **07 SEAT Leon 2.0 TDi DPF FR 5-dr Hatchback.** In black magic with FR grey interior, cruise control, air con, traction control system, ESP, only 36,598 miles..... **£12,795**

06 **56 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.4TSi (170ps) FT 5-dr** in reflex silver metallic with siemere anthracite interior, climatic air con, front fogs, alloy wheels, cd, only 49,998 miles **£10,995**

06 **56 HONDA Civic 1.8i V-tec Type-S 3-dr Hatchback.** In alabaster silver with alcantara/suede interior, climate control, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 24,405 miles **£9,995**

05 **55 FORD Street Ka 1.6 Luxury 2-dr Convertible.** In French blue with ebony black leather interior, air con, cd, quick clear front screen, only 21,720 miles..... **£5,995**

04 **04 TOYOTA MR2 1.8 VVTi 140 6-spd** in sable grey met with Santa Monica leather, alloy wheels, chrome roll over bar, wind deflector, cd, alarm and immobiliser, only 49,750 miles..... **£7,495**

04 **54 AUDI A3 2.0TDi Sport 3-dr Hatchback.** In crystal blue with matrix black cloth/leather, cd, alloy wheels, climate control, electronic stability programme, only 64,000 miles..... **£9,995**

04 **54 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.9 TDi (100ps) Sport 5-dr** in rosewood red pearlescent with scala sports interior, alloy wheels, air con, body coloured bumpers, cd, only 59,790 miles..... **£5,995**

04 **04 CITROEN C2 1.6 VTR Sensodrive** in arctic steel silver with neutron mesh interior, paddle shift, alloy wheels, air con, colour coded bumpers, rear spoiler, cd, only 62,100 miles..... **£3,995**

03 **53 MG TF 1.8 135bhp 2-door Convertible.** In starlight silver with black interior, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, CD, electric windows, only 30,845 miles **£4,495**

02 **02 AUDI TT Roadster 1.8T Quattro (225bhp) 2-dr Convertible.** In silver with special edition grey leather interior, Bose sound system, heated seats, alloy wheels, climate control, only 70,620 miles..... **£9,995**

02 **02 MG ZS 2.5 180.** In anthracite black, with monaco ash interior with red inserts, alloy wheels, a/c, cd, colour coded bumpers, front fogs, alarm and immobiliser, only 62,310 miles..... **£2,995**

00 **W LEXUS IS200 2.0 Sport 4-Door Saloon.** In Strathcarn blue with Oakham suede/leather interior, multi-CD, electric heated seats, electric sunroof, air con, only 57,280 miles **£4,495**

FAMILY

08 **08 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Breeze 5-dr** in star silver met with tabita charcoal interior, alloy wheels, climate control, trip computer, body coloured bumpers, only 10,800 miles..... **£9,495**

07 **57 NISSAN QashQai 2.0dCi Tenka 5-dr AWD.** In pearl black metallic, with full graphite leather interior, alloy wheels, climate control, cruise control, cd with bluetooth, heated seats, rear parking sensors, panoramic sunroof, only 37,267 miles **£15,995**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v 98 Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback.** In mercury silver with carbon sport interior, air con, CD, front fogs, alarm, only 15,060 miles **£7,295**

07 **07 VAUXHALL Vectra 1.8VVT (140PS) 5-dr hatchback** in metro blue with Duke/Elba charcoal interior, air con, alloy wheels, cruisecontrol, alarm, only 27.400 miles..... **£6,995**

06 **06 FORD Focus Zetec Climate 1.8 TDCi Diesel 5-dr Hatchback.** In black with dark interior, alloy wheels, air con, CD, colour coded bumpers, only 61,199 miles, quick clean screen..... **£6,995**

05 **05 HONDA Civic 1.7 CDTi** in magnetic blue with hatch fabric interior, alloy wheels, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 55,130 miles..... **£6,495**

05 **05 CITROEN C3 1.4 Desire 5-dr hatchback.** In oriental blue with blue/black Tomy interior, air con, colour coded bumpers, immobiliser only 39,840 miles **£4,295**

04 **54 FORD Mondeo 2.0 Ghia 5-dr Hatchback.** In platinum silver with aras ebony interior, front and rear fogs, cruise control, multi cd, quick clear windscreen, only 51,140 miles..... **£4,995**

04 **54 CITROEN C3 stop&start 1.4 5-dr Automatic Hatchback.** In silver with blue velour interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, only 29,920 miles **£4,495**

04 **54 NISSAN Primera 1.8S 5-dr hatchback** in techno grey with Kubla slate interior, colour coded bumpers. climate control, cd, steering wheel mounted controls, immobiliser, only 51,910 miles..... **£3,995**

04 **54 CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.6 SX 5-dr Estate.** In imperial blue with grey interior, alloy wheels, air con, colour coded bumpers, immobiliser, cd, only 30,730 miles..... **£3,495**

04 **04 TOYOTA Avensis 2.0 VVTi T-Spirit Auto 4-dr Saloon.** Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, climate, cruise, electric seat adjustment, only 55,065 miles **£5,995**

04 **04 FORD Focus 1.6i 16v Zetec 5-dr Hatchback.** In panther black with Saloman black interior, climate pack which includes air con and quick clear heated front screen, alloys, colour coded bumpers, only 83,060 miles..... **£4,395**

03 **03 HONDA Civic Type S 5-dr** in clover green met with half leather sports seats, climate control, alloy wheels, rear spoiler, full Honda service history, only 36,030 miles..... **£4,995**

02 **02 AUDI A4 Avant 1.9 TDi SE 5-dr Estate.** In crystal blue with black phoenix interior, climate control, cd, rear entertainment package, roof rails, traction control system, service history, only 55,140 miles..... **£7,495**

02 **51 TOYOTA Corolla 1.6 VVTi GLS Automatic 5-dr.** In Atlantis blue metallic with hocney interior, alloy wheels, air con, sunroof, cd auto-changer, body coloured bumpers, only 34,790 miles..... **£3,495**

01 **51 MERCEDES Benz A-Class 1.4 A140 Avantguard 5-dr hatchback.** In red with slate grey half leather/cloth interior, cd, ipod connection, air con, alloy wheels, service history, only 47,790 miles **£3,995**

01 **Y AUDI A4 2.0 SE Saloon.** In metallic silver with full beige leather interior, climate control, CD, alloy wheels, electric sunroof, full Audi service history, only 33,005 miles..... **£3,795**

01 **Y LANDROVER Freelander 1.8 ES 5-dr station wagon.** In metallic green with green leather interior, multi cd, heated seats, roof rails, alloy wheels, air con, electric sunroof, only 53,340 miles..... **£3,795**

01 **Y LANDROVER Freelander 1.8 GS 3-dr hard top** in Blenheim silver with smokestone interior, alarm, alloy wheels, air con, cd, only 68,220 miles..... **£3,495**

SMALL

09 **09 VAUXHALL 1.4 16v Design (a/c) 5-dr Automatic Hatchback.** In black with black interior, cd, alloy wheels, electric mirrors and windows, auto dipping rear view mirror, only 8,020 miles..... **£10,995**

09 **09 VAUXHALL Corsa Club A/C 1.2 16v 5-Dr.** In black sapphire, with cable charcoal interior, air con, colour coded bumpers, CD, alarm and immobiliser, auxiliary output, only 18,218 miles..... **£7,995**

08 **58 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Design (A/C).** 5 door in ice blue with dark interior, air con, MP3 input, colour coded bumpers, front fog lights, only 19,950 miles..... **£7,995**

08 **08 FORD KA Studio.** In panther black with cascade interior, immobiliser, CD, drivers airbag, central locking, only 32,349 miles **£4,995**

08 **08 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style climate 3-dr hatchback.** In panther black with ebony interior, quick clear front screen, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 23,275 miles..... **£6,495**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.4 5-dr Hatchback.** In silver with black interior, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, fog lights, only 37,550 miles **£6,495**

07 **07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2i 16v life (a/c) 3-dr hatchback easy tronic.** In metro blue with punch cloth charcoal interior, electric mirrors, air con, immobiliser, service history, only 17,900 miles..... **£6,495**

06 **56 NISSAN Micra 1.2 16v Activ 3-dr hatchback.** In metallic beige with charcoal interior, immobiliser, air con, alloy wheels, cd, service history, only 26,600 miles **£4,495**

06 **06 FORD Ka 1.3 Collection 3-dr hatchback** in tonic blue with cubical ebony interior, cd, alloys wheels, colour coded bumpers, electric windows, servbice history, only 6,500 miles **£4,295**

06 **06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3-dr Hatchback.** In platinum silver with grey interior, alloy wheels, steering wheel mounted audio controls, colour coded bumpers, CD, only 19,860 miles..... **£4,995**

06 **06 FORD Ka 1.3 Collection.** In panther black with Tic-Toc interior, cd, body coloured bumpers, immobiliser, only 30,866 miles **£4,195**

04 **54 MINI 1.6 Cooper (Pepper pack) 3-dr hatchback.** In purple with white roof, black interior, 8 spoke alloy wheels, a/c, cd, front fogs, e/front windows, only 39,760 miles..... **£7,995**

04 **53 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Active 3-Dr Hatchback.** In ultra blue with points charcoal interior, air con, colour coded bumpers, CD and alloy wheels, only 62,825 miles..... **£3,395**

04 **04 FORD Ka 1.6 Sport 3-dr hatchback.** Magnum grey with streetline dark interior, colour coded bumpers, front fog lights, electric windows, alloy wheels, cd, only 40,955 miles **£3,895**

03 **03 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Expression 5-dr Hatchback.** In capsicum red with grey interior, CD, sunroof, power steering, service history, only 58,105 miles..... **£3,295**

02 **02 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3-dr hatchback** in china blue with limited edition blue interior, alloy wheels, manual sunroof, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 58,650 miles **£2,995**

01 **Y VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.4S 3-dr.** In reflex silver met with Pepe interior, sunroof, body coloured bumpers, cd, immobiliser, full VW service history, only 68,350 miles **£3,495**

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Tae Kwon-Do school prepares for big event

Back row: Bradley Halford, Matthew Bennett, Jamie Halford, Liam Rees and Morgan Harrhy. Front row: Thomas Haysham, Hayley Mattey, Ollie Tipples and Charlotte Sullivan.

CONTINUING their build-up to the world games in Ireland this year, the Cadoxton Schools of Tae Kwon-Do attended the fourth of a series of six Welsh masters' tournaments.

Thomas Haysham and Hayley Mattey got the school off to a good start, taking second and third places in the junior pattern section.

The ever-improving Matthew Bennett was first in the point and second in the continuous sparring. Fighting up a category, Bradley Halford came away with two first places. Once again, Charlotte Sullivan did herself proud, taking first place in the points sparring.

Yet again, young Ollie Tipples just missed out on the gold by one point, he took second in the point and continuous sparring sections.

Fighting a very experienced opponent in both his point and continuous sparring categories, Thomas Haysham had some hard bouts and he did well to come home with second in both.

In the point sparring, Hayley Mattey came up against some very hard competitors, and eventually came away with third place.

Liam Rees took third place in a hard-fought continuous category. Having not competed in three months, Morgan Harrhy did well and just missed out on the gold, taking second in continuous sparring.

Jamie Halford was first in the men's point sparring, and then progressed to the final of the men's continuous sparring, where he met a much bigger opponent, and won again.

Looking in good shape for the world games, Morganne Gomez Jones took a convincing first in her continuous sparring category; Morganne also fought up one category and was first.

Places are now available for beginners of all ages, Mondays and Wednesdays from 6pm at the Victoria Park Community Centre. For further information, telephone Ron Thomas on 01446 406372.

RT

A thrashing in anyone's language

Llangennech v Cowbridge West Wales XI

A DEFEAT by 45 runs in a game of cricket doesn't sound like a real thrashing, but when you take into account that Llangennech were dismissed for 73 runs, the maths tells a different story.

Cowbridge won the toss and inserted the home team and soon exerted so much pressure, due to accurate bowling by Nat Elliot Green and Mike Hordley, that wickets began to tumble.

The fielding too was of a high standard and team morale was high.

The Llangennech innings ended with Nat taking a hat trick of wickets and finishing with the excellent figures of 6 for 27.

Mike Hordley took 3 for 20 and young Sean Rowland 1 for 10.

It was a very different story in the batting. Openers Jon Brazier and Guy Parker put on 19 for the first wicket when a shooter did for the skipper plumb in front lbw. This signalled a batting collapse due to a mixture of rash shots and good bowling to 18 for 5.

Once Guy departed for 12, all resistance evaporated and five ducks in a total of 28 all out tells the story.

Cricket is a game that cannot be won with good bowling and fielding only, much work needs to be done with the batting some of it technical but much of it the mind.

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165/70R13 Bridgestone B250	£46.38	£87	£165	165/70R13 Avon ZT5	£38.64	£72	£140	165/70R13 Tread	£29.24	£55	£105
175/70R14 Bridgestone B250	£59.46	£112	£210	175/70R14 Avon ZT5	£47.46	£92	£175	175/70R14 Tread	£33.60	£62	£115
175/65R14 Bridgestone B250	£52.80	£89	£170	175/65R14 Avon ZT5	£41.30	£79	£150	175/65R14 Tread	£33.12	£60	£115

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185/60R14 Bridgestone B250	£65.40	£120	£230	185/60R14 Avon ZV3	£52.34	£98	£190	185/60R14 Tread	£35.22	£67	£130
185/60R15 Bridgestone EH300	£73.64	£132	£255	185/60R15 Avon ZV3	£56.22	£105	£200	185/60R15 Tread	£37.29	£70	£135
195/60R15 Bridgestone B250	£82.14	£108	£205	195/60R15 Avon ZV3	£52.21	£100	£190	195/60R15 Tread	£38.47	£73	£140

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195/60R15 Bridgestone EH300	£75.46	£135	£260	195/60R15 Avon ZV5	£62.34	£118	£230	195/60R15 Federal	£44.37	£82	£155
195/65R15 Bridgestone EH300	£63.79	£110	£210	195/65R15 Avon ZV5	£54.34	£101	£195	195/65R15 Maxxis	£46.86	£85	£160
205/55R16 Bridgestone EH300	£72.86	£125	£240	205/55R16 Avon ZV5	£65.24	£125	£240	205/55R16 Maxxis	£54.71	£100	£190

ULTRA HIGH PERFORMANCE TYRES FROM £49.32

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205/55R16 Bridgestone EH300	£77.94	£145	£275	205/55R16 Avon ZV5	£68.57	£125	£240	205/55R16 Hiro	£51.59	£95	£180
225/45R17 Bridgestone RE050	£103.94	£199	£390	225/45R17 (L) Avon ZV5	£90.23	£175	£330	225/45R17 Hiro	£55.55	£105	£195
225/40R18 (L) Bridgestone RE050	£132.92	£250	£480	225/40R18 (L) Avon ZV5	£106.24	£199	£385	225/40R18 Hiro	£58.14	£110	£210

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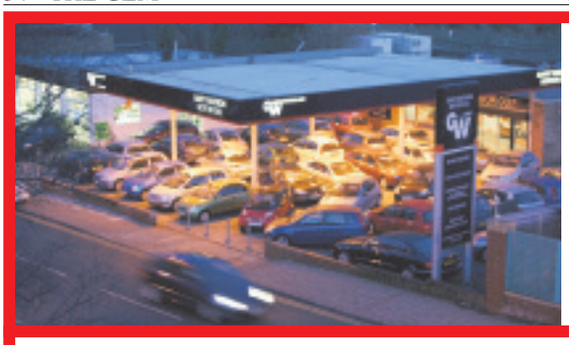

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07	**MERCEDES C220 CDi Avante Garde Estate Automatic.** In met silver, 65,000 miles, superb throughout	£13,995
05	**MERCEDES CLK 220 CDi Automatic.** In tellluar silver with full leather trim, 60,000 miles	£12,995
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54	**FORD Focus C Max 1.6 TDi.** Magnum grey, 36,000 miles, outstanding value & economy	£5,995
06	**FORD Focus 1.4LX 5-dr.** In met silver, 44,000 miles with a/c, etc.	£5,695
07	**RENAULT Clio 12 Expression 3-dr.** In steel blue, 33,000 miles with a/c, c/d, etc	REDUCED BY £1,000 TO £5,495
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Ice cream hopes at Knap hit for six as thieves raid the freezer storage room

REGULAR visitors to the Knap have been left disgusted by the theft of a freezer which had been bought by a local vendor to supply people with ice creams.

Tiffany Sinanaj (39) who owns Mochachocalatta, a business providing tourists and locals with coffee, teas and cakes, decided to respond to public demand by selling ice creams too.

She told The GEM: "I ordered a freezer which cost £500 and put it in a storeroom, which is adjacent to the disabled toilet at the Knap.

"It was there at 8.30pm on Tuesday, August 3 but by 7am the next morning it had gone.

"I have reported the theft to the police. It was a commercial freezer that would have required two men and a van to have taken it away.

"It seems likely that someone was watching while it was stored.

"It is so disappointing. People had been asking me to provide ice creams. The freezer cost me a lot of money and now I can't supply what people want."

Tiffany has pasted a note to the door of the toilet block appealing: "*To the people who have stolen the freezer, please, please return it. I have struggled to buy it to provide ice cream for people enjoying the Knap. This is my livelihood*."

Anyone with information should contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

ABOVE: Tiffany is still serving teas, coffees and cakes – but thanks to mean-spirited thieves ice cream is off the menu.

NEWS FROM CADOXTON BOWLING CLUB

Winning week for the bowlers

CADOXTON boosted their position in the Munro Cup league with a gain of 10 points, at home against Millwood.

Graham Brown's rink took the honours with a devastating win against the rink skipped by Arthur Norris. Only six winning ends were managed by the visitors, while the score against them mounted steadily throughout. The advantage taken doubled the loss on the rink skipped by Howard Craven, which trailed throughout against the Brian Crockford rink.

Don Kuhnell's four had a close encounter, with their opposition skipped by Colin James, until a '4' on the eighth end opened a gap which was never relinquished.

The advantage on this rink also doubled the loss on the rink skipped by Kelvin Chedgzoy, which fought back well after conceding a '5' and '4', early in the match, against Keith Davies's rink.

T Bishop, R Cole, A Carpenter, D Kuhnell 17–11; B Knight, L Davies, J Stewart, H Craven 13–23; P Ellis, G Solomon, A Brown, G Brown 26–6; G Jones, L Cundliffe, I Robertson, K Chedgzoy 14 –17. Final score: 70–57.

Close at West End

CADOXTON went to Trelai Park for their match against Cardiff West End, with both sides eager for points to help stave off the threat of relegation.

The bowling 'green', which belied its name as most of it was brown or black, was covered with moss. Graham Brown's rink were leading 11–6, when a break was made for tea.

The scores were brought level on resumption, before a '4' and '3' regained the advantage. However, the tables changed during the last six ends and they lost by five shots.

The rink skipped by Howard Craven reached an advantage of 6–3, all singles, but two 2's before the break took away the lead. Neither side were able to take control, but the home side managed to hold their one-shot lead at the end.

Fortunately for Cadoxton, Kelvin Chedgzoy's rink had a good day. A '5' and '3' boosted their score to 18–2, and then increased further to 26–5. A little bit of the shine was taken off when seven were scored against while there was three in their favour.

The rink skipped by Don Kuhnell had a terrible start, with a '6' contributing to a 0–15 deficit. At the break the score was 4–21, which was covered by the same score in Kelvin's favour.

On the restart, there was a much better response by the visitors, and 12 were scored whilst conceding just five.

Being the last rink on and two shots in front overall, Don decided to let them have the one shot they were holding by not playing his last bowl, to have the narrowest of wins.

T Bishop, L Davies, J Davies, K Chedgzoy 29–12; R Cole, H Hellyar, L Cundliffe, D Kuhnell 16–27; P Ellis, D Evans, A Brown, G Brown 19–23; G Davies, A Carpenter, W Vaughan, H Craven 15–16. Final score: 79–78.

'A' teams wins on three

THE 'A' side hosted the match against Millwood 'A', looking for a win to keep their hopes of promotion intact.

The aggregate score ended level, but with three winning rinks the points went 9–5 in their favour.

The only unsuccessful rink was skipped by Ivor Robertson, which unfortunately conceded a '4' on the final end, after a recovery which brought them from 14–2 down to within three shots.

Roy Harding's rink collapsed when leading 16–4, but held on for a two-shot win.

The rink skipped by Graham Garland made a good recovery from a 9–3 deficit, when a '4' and '3' brought them back into the game after 11 ends. Only three further losing rinks before the end brought their success.

The four skipped by John Stewart cancelled out three singles with a '3'. This was almost completed in reverse when four singles scored were reduced with a '3'.

Two single and a '3' to either side kept the one-shot difference. However, the home side managed to hold on for a four-shot win.

K Tanner, I Dunbar, D Tuck, I Robertson 16–25; R Doble, V Bryant, S Pycroft, G Garland 18–15; S Clements, G Jones, L Little, J Stewart 18–14; G Powell, M Curtis, D Brook, R Harding 18–16. Final score: 70–70.

Murch bowlers' 10 point haul on the road

MURCH bowlers travelled to Rhoose Bowling Club on Wednesday for their midweek Munro Cup game in anticipation of what lay ahead with the new all weather matting recently laid at Rhoose.

Murch soon got to grips with the the new matting and produced some good all round bowling and managed an overall win by one shot and 10 points.

In the game with skip Bob Hill, R Pemberton, T Rice and H Guppy, it remained close up until the 15th end – just one shot behind. Murch produced some all round bowling, only to see their shots driven out of the head by Rhoose skip Ray Ball, winning 16-11.

Skip Colin Grant, G Santavy, I Robinson and M Wheadon got off to a good start. They were 6-3 up on the seventh end but Rhoose responded by scoring four shots on the next three ends, bringing the score to 8-8 on the 11th end. They failed to score on the next six ends, allowing Murch to pull ahead into the final end 15-9 up.

Rhoose fought back well and scored six shots bringing the score all square at 15-15.

The captain's rink of skip R Mauchline, C Parsons, D Blainey and D Poole again started off well, 6-3 up on the seventh end, but failed to score on the next three ends, allowing their opponents in front at 7-6 for the first time in the game.

Murch managed to edge their way in front to 12-8 up on the 16th end. Rhoose made a late comeback and scored four shots on final two ends to bring the score all square at 12-12.

Skip C Garland, A Savage, D Davies and D Bateman were the best winning rink and led from the start to finish, never looking in trouble until the 13th end when they dropped three shots and went on to record a win of 15-9.

Aggregate score: Rhoose 52, Murch 53 (+10 points).

ROBERT PEMBERTON

Urban Space in Windsor hat-trick

ON AND OFF THE TURF
with Brian Lee

A FOUR-YEAR-OLD chesnut gelding called *Urban Space*, trained by John Flint at Kenfig Hill, chalked-up its third win at Windsor last weekend when coming home one-and-a-half lengths ahead of *Peace Corps* in a mile and two furlongs handicap race.

Mr Flint, father of promising jumps jockey Rhys Flint, said: "Rhys will probably persuade me to run the horse over hurdles now."

Urban Space, who is owned by Mr Jason Tucker, was ridden by Keiron Fox, who was also in the saddle when it won its previous race.

ERDELI WINS

Erdeli, a six-year-old bay gelding, trained at Aberthin by Tim Vaughan and ridden by seven-pounds-claiming apprentice jockey Thomas Brown, won the Holiday Inn Apprentice Handicap at Wolverhampton on Monday.

Taking the lead three furlongs from the finish of this two miles and 119 yards event, Erdeli, owned by the Select Racing Club Ltd, won easily by five lengths at odds of 8-1 to give Vaughan, who is better known as a trainer of hurdlers and steeple-chasers, another success on the flat.

Barry Athletic celebrates a clean sweep

NATHAN BAKER took his out-of-form Barry Athletic First XI to season strugglers Lisvane in a 'must win' match if the Stags wished to challenge for promotion come the end of the season.

Baker continued his tradition of winning the toss, and asked the hosts to bat first on a tricky surface that invited a bit for the seamers. Barry never looked back after some consistent bowling brought wickets galore.

The ever-reliable Peter Hellyar claimed another four to take his tally to 32 for the season. He was assisted by the tight bowling of Steve Jones, the swing of promising youngster, Jake Griffett (three wickets) and the in-form Billy Usswald (2).

There was superb fielding on display by Scott Hopkins, with a fine run out, and the ever-promising Ashley Baker, as Lisvane were bowled out for a less than impressive 152 from 44.4 overs.

After the interval, opening pair, Damon Leake and Nathan Baker were strolling along at 58-0, before Baker fell victim to Srinivas for a respectable 27 – bringing in younger brother, Ashley Baker. Both put on a batting exhibition and kept going until Leake passed 50 for the fifth time this season, before being stumped for 54. Ashley Baker soon followed for 29.

Middle order batsman, Ian Gadd, could only score eight as he was given out lbw. The decision was upheld after a referral had gone with the on-field umpire. Andrew Buckland and Anjan Ganapathy held out for a six-wicket win and another 20 points for the Stags, now in second place.

Seconds take step towards safety

Martin Baker was on hand to captain Barry Athletic Second XI and the opponents came in the form of Brecon.

The Stag bowlers were soon in full control as Brecon failed to take advantage of a good batting track. Top quality bowling from Phillip Thomas and John Gee saw the Stags take charge of the innings and continue to take wickets at regular intervals.

Gwyn Price top-scored with 43 as some great 'rabbit' bowling from Simon Phillips (3-42) saw the visitors close on 213-8 from their 50 overs.

After tea, the Stags began shakily as Andy Ellis and Dewi Evans both departed for low scores. The Barry batsmen were in a tough situation and were in need of a saviour; up stepped club legend, Phil Thomas, as he showed Brecon what happens when you cross a batsman with his ability.

He immediately took the match away from the visitors and mustered up a fine century to finish on 119 not out – a fine effort.

The Stags were assisted heavily by the extras column, but the batting display of Thomas saw the Stags home as they reached their target with 9.2 overs to spare, for the loss of just five wickets – claiming 19 points in the process.

Good win for Thirds

Andy Ellis led Barry Athletic Third XI into the match at Creigiau, won the toss and chose to bowl first, to many people's surprise.

However, Ellis' decision was soon justified as Barry immediately had Creigiau on the ropes. With a disciplined bowling line-up, Dafydd Frost immediately made his mark on the game with a fine display of swing bowling.

Kelvin Williams and Steve Jones produced a fine display of seam and spin bowling. The youngsters had a chance to impress and Rhys Hatton, Tom Ellis and Callum Twomey all contributed in the wickets column. Creigiau were bowled out for just 67 in 33 overs.

After the interval, the Stags punished Creigiau for some average bowling. Jophin Reji was dismissed for just 5, and Baker was dropped by Lewis from his own bowling. Baker recovered from the near miss and cruised through the Creigiau bowling attack.

Young Tom Ellis fell on 16 after being caught and bowled by Hywel Williams, but by that time the Stags were nearly there and skipper Andy Ellis stayed with Baker and finished Creigiau off.

Barry won by eight wickets and claimed a much-needed 19 points.

Stags soar into semis

Andrew Buckland led his Bucky's Bashers XI into the Midweek Cup quarter-final against Dinas Powys on Monday.

After heavy downpours in the day, praise must go to Ian Gadd for getting the match on. Dinas Powys, to many people's surprise, won the toss and chose to bat first.

Barry began strongly and with the changed format of this tournament, everyone had to bowl two overs each and retire at 35 with the bat. The Stags took early wickets to put the pressure on the visitors. Phil Thomas (2-11) and Brad Dodd (2-17) impressed with the ball, but some fine running in between the wickets ensured that Dinas Powys finished on a competitive 141 all out from their 20 overs.

After the interval, disaster struck for the Stags. Thomas was struggling with a leg problem and Ashley Baker was caught and bowled for 5. However, Thomas soldiered on with Reji, and propelled the Stags to a winnable situation, after reaching 66-1 from 10 overs.

Soon after, Thomas departed for a useful 33 and Reji made a quick-fire 24 before being caught at extra cover.

The Stags needed a hero and that is what they got, in the shape and form of Andrew Buckland.

He proved his worth by immediately taking the game to the visitors and retiring on 35 after 23 balls. With the finishing line in sight, Dewi Evans made a match-winning contribution of 30 not out from just 12 balls, and with a useful partnership formed between Evans and Richard Eastman, the Stags closed on 144-5 from 17.3 overs. **AB**

Trophy has a story behind it

BACK in the 1930s, a rather portly gentleman, known to all as 'Pop' John, was a playing member of Brynhill Golf Club.

As he was rather a large gentleman, he always carried a pencil golf bag with just four clubs in it, and never carried it himself, but gave 1/6d to one of the young lads hanging around outside the caddy master's hut.

Pop John would play four holes (the nearest to the clubhouse), pay the lad who was lucky enough to get the bag, then play the same four holes pay the lad, then do it one more time.

He always played 12 holes, with three lads each earning 1/6d (8p nowadays) – though it was pointed out that the caddy master always took 3d from each lad afterwards.

Now, some 60-odd years later, the members of Brynhill play an annual tournament known as The Pop John Tankard, and to commemorate the event each entrant is only allowed to play with four clubs – a wood, two irons and a putter, just as Pop John did back in the 1930s.

In 2010, the winner, with a nett score of 76 was Peter Curtis.

GEM sport

Cowbridge cricket round-up

THE FIRST XI FRUSTRATED BY 10th WICKET

BRITON Ferry Town came to the Athletic Field on Saturday desperate for points to stave off relegation, whereas the home side needed as many points as possible to maintain the chase for promotion.

It transpired that the home side was more satisfied at the end of the game, having secured 17 points towards that aim, although failing to capture all 10 opposition wickets. This keeps them in touch with the top two, but makes the remaining games even more vital.

Despite the heavy overnight rain, the game began on time although the outfield was slightly damp. Briton Ferry Town won the toss and decided to field.

Cowbridge First XI scored 158 for 8 in the 50 overs, not finding batting very easy against a committed side on a rather slow and unpredictable wicket.

After 20 overs, the Cowbridge batsman found themselves on 60 for 3, with Tom Merilaht (10), Michael Lloyd (17) and Nick Davies (17) back in the pavilion.

So it was left to Elliot Swallow to take charge and mount a rescue mission. This he did most successfully, remaining at the crease for 33 overs, and with a little help from his friends taking the score from 43 to 136, as wickets fell around him.

With grit, determined defence, single-minded application and fluent strokes when opportune, he held the innings together, frustrating the bowling considerably.

This was Elliot's most valuable innings of the season so far as he took the side to a reasonable and competitive total. It was a great disappointment to all, not least to Elliot himself, when he was out two runs short of his half century. In heroic fashion, he sacrificed his wicket while backing up for a quick single.

Andy Finucane, with an aggressive 21, and Gareth Williams-Davies, a dashing 8 not out, ably supported him to give the side a reasonable total to defend.

The bowlers mounted a stern defence of this total, taking nine of the opposition's wickets and were unlucky not to take the 10th, despite Tom Merilaht's outrageous attempts towards the end to 'buy' some wickets. However, this action did lead to a couple of stunning catches by Ryan Taylor on the boundary, and an analysis of 4 for 6 in 6 overs for Tom.

In addition to Tom's figures, the wickets were shared among the others, Matthew Smart (1-12), Lloyd Bishop (1-10), Ryan Taylor (1-9) and Nick Davies (2-32).

Elliot was effective behind the stumps as well, with a catch and a stunning stumping as the opposition batsmen found it very difficult to deal with the quality of the bowling and the efficiency of the fielding.

This was the last match at home for the First XI this season, the remaining three fixtures being away. The captain and players therefore wish to express their thanks to those who have supported them throughout the season and hope to repay that support with promotion to the First Division, at some point during the last three games.

Next Saturday, the First XI travels to Aberdare for another vital match. The Second XI is at home, and as usual welcome your support.

DL

Seconds win after 'wobble'

AFTER the previous two weeks' defeats, Cowbridge were keen to stop the rot and put in a good performance away against Briton Ferry.

On a blustery day, the captain won the toss and had no hesitation of putting Briton Ferry into bat on a wicket that was, to put it politely, a little wet.

The Briton Ferry batsmen immediately found the going tough, with both John Gilbert and Alex Kurobasa bowling superbly. The harsh facts were that Briton Ferry simply could not handle the consistent line and length of the Cowbridge bowlers, plus the flight and guile of James Thomas (3 for 13).

The result was that Briton Ferry were bowled out for 59. This was a terrific performance, with John Gilbert finishing with figures of 15 overs 4 for 16 and Alex with 11 overs 3 for 25.

Cowbridge were obviously buoyed up having bowled out the opposition for such a low total. However, Cowbridge would have to bat on the same soggy wicket, which had, far from improving, deteriorated even further.

It is a strange cricketing quirk that, when chasing a low total, despite all the initial confidence things do not always go to plan and this was indeed the case at the beginning of the Cowbridge innings.

They slumped to 3 for 2 off the first five overs, which brought Jonty Webb and Chris Brace to the wicket. Both were conscious that, despite the low total, they would have to apply themselves against a now vocal and determined Briton Ferry side.

Chris, continuing his good form, batted superbly. Totally unfazed, he handled the Briton Ferry bowling with aplomb and with the captain at the other end, solid and steady as ever, a partnership was built.

With good running between the wickets, plus sensible shot selection, the score rose to 46 when Chris (26) and Jonty (23) were eventually out.

After their good work, victory was not in doubt, with Chris Ross finally hitting the winning runs to give Cowbridge a win in the 22nd over.

Although Cowbridge's batting did 'wobble' slightly, this was a comprehensive victory justly deserved, as they were the better side on the day. Hopefully, Cowbridge will secure a further victory at home to Aberdare next week.

JW

(See page 33 for a third team report).

CALLING ALL CLUB OFFICIALS!

The GEM welcomes your match reports, and other club items of interest.
Email them to: ***ggem@internet-today.co.uk***

Vale karter Tom is now back on song

ABOVE:
Tom took the second placed trophy.
PHOTO by CHRIS WALKER

BONVILSTON flyer Tom Harvey was back on the podium last week in the annual Kartmasters outing at PF International.

Tom's winning streak suddenly came to a shuddering halt at Glan Y Gors in north Wales a month ago, since when the 12-year-old has been struggling for speed.

He said: "It seems to have been down to a bad chassis, because when we tried a new one it cured the problem. However, just before timed qualifying, we realised the kart was bent, so we had to quickly change chassis again..."

With traffic scarcely aiding his cause, 12th place out of the 30 competitors meant he would begin both of his heat races from the middle of the pack.

A ninth in heat one and seventh in heat two earned Tom sixth on the grid for the pre-final, but a 'terrible' start left him eighth at the chequered flag, barely a second adrift of the race-winner, having intelligently worked in tandem with his team-mate to chase down the leading sextet, and requiring just one more lap to take advantage. And that was not his only problem...

"I woke up on Sunday morning with a really bad stomach, and when we got to the track I threw up," revealed the Cowbridge High School pupil. "I felt really ill, but I was still determined to race. The pain eased when I was out on the circuit, because the adrenaline just pumps you up so much.

"In the grand final, I followed T-J Nelson and kept pushing him to the front. When his kart gripped up, I passed him to take the lead, and I had four other karts right behind me for several laps – but Connor Jupp then made a huge lunge on me and knocked me back to sixth, so I had to work my way through all over again.

"Going into the last lap I was third. Jupp forced his way past James Kellett ahead and I went with him, and I then went up the inside of Connor into the second hairpin, but he drifted out onto the rumble strip which gave him a better run down the straight. He then turned in on me, which meant I had to slow down and lost my momentum."

Crossing the finish line a scant seven hundredths of a second adrift off the top spot in a truly thrilling encounter, a better fastest lap time than Jupp ably demonstrated that Tom had the pace – and more importantly still, the Vale hotshot's front-running performance in what was unquestionably the toughest meeting of the year proved that he is indubitably back on-song.

"I was disappointed, but at the end of the day I've got bigger things to focus on, namely the two British Championships, which mean a lot to me," he concluded of his Kartmasters weekend.

"I'm leading Super 1 by 36 points and am just five points off the lead in FKS."

COWBRIDGE BOWLING CLUB NEWS

Record win for the 'hot shots'

COWBRIDGE ladies teams have played Porthcawl Prince of Wales Club on three occasions this season.

The first was a friendly at Porthcawl which Cowbridge lost by 37 shots overall. In the second, also at Porthcawl, it was a draw.

In the third, Cowbridge went one better with a comfortable home win in a Cowbridge Shield match, winning on all three rinks and by 87–29.

Rink scores were: Sue Flower's 37–6, Joy Woolford's 20–15, Shirley Wilkinson's 29–8.

Rhoose ladies should have been the visitors last Thursday but could not raise a team, so the points were awarded to Cowbridge.

The Penarth Belle Vue team were the men's opponents for the midweek game played at Cowbridge. The Penarth team has struggled membership-wise for a number of years but, to their credit, has always managed to put out a full team. This was a game Cowbridge expected to win, so it was an opportunity to plan ahead for next season.

Dennis Snelling captained the team. Alan Wallace, a new member this season, played his first game for the club and Colin Wilson played as skip for the first time.

The size of the win was unexpected – it was a landslide win for Cowbridge by 174–25, and included three 'hot shots' (all eight Cowbridge bowls closest to the jack).

Alan Wallace and Colin Wilson playing in the same team with support from Eric Sewell and Norman Wilkinson achieved two 'hot shots'.

Dennis Snelling's team, with Ron Frayling, Rob Lewis, John Jones and Dennis as skip had the other 'hot shot'. This was the biggest win in the club's history.

Rink scores: Rink 1 – Byron Richard's 43–9, Rink 2 – Steve Dicken's 35–7, Rink 3 – Colin Wilson's 51–3, Rink 4 – Dennis Snelling's 45–6.

It is worth mentioning that Penarth took their heavy defeat well and enjoyed the after-match hospitality. Two of their players won the two raffle prizes.

MB

Free soccer coaching

TWO days of free soccer coaching sessions for youngsters are on offer at Barry's Victoria Park later this month.

The park, with help from the Vale Council's sports development team, is hosting two more sessions on August 25 and 26 to meet popular demand.

Boys and girls between the ages of seven and 14 can join in at the multi-sports court between 11am and 3pm, and take part in a round robin tournament each afternoon. There'll be prizes for the winning teams and some on-the-spot prizes each day too.

For more information on events at Victoria Park, contact Jon on 07809 551465 or visit the council's website at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

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